

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### THE 2005 ETHIOPIAN ELECTION

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, Ethiopia, one of Africa's most populous and influential nations, has for centuries been the home to numerous diverse religious and ethnic populations. Last May, the East African nation held elections, which promised to be a big step forward for Ethiopia's democracy. The election process started out more open than previous elections, with the political opposition able to campaign more freely than ever before. Unfortunately, the window of opportunity presented for democracy closed in a wave of government harassment of opposition parties and ethnic hate speech on both sides.

Although there were other problems in the election process, the biggest issue was the delayed release of vote results. Preliminary results indicated that the opposition did much better than in past elections, increasing the number of parliamentary seats won from 12 to nearly 200. However, opposition party coalitions charged that fraud had been committed in many of the races they did not win. Because the government had failed to release results in the weeks after the election, suspicions rose that a victory by the opposition had been stolen.

The controversy surrounding the 2005 Ethiopian election is the result of a number of factors that created a "perfect storm" of political discontent that has created tragic conditions in Ethiopia.

The European Union election monitoring team reported serious irregularities, but its impartiality was questioned after the leak of a preliminary EU report which indicated that the opposition parties would win a majority in Parliament based largely on results in the capital city of Addis Ababa. Periodic statements released by the EU election team were then undercut by statements from EU diplomats, much as I experienced in my visit to Addis last August.

The Government of Ethiopia, by refusing to release all relevant information regarding the election in a timely fashion, created fear that the election had been stolen. International donors worked behind the scenes with the government to create a mechanism to resolve election disputes. However, that mechanism pitted the ruling party and the government-appointed National Election Board against the opposition parties. As a result, the opposition lost 90 percent of the challenges it filed, and the government missed its own July 8th deadline for release of election results, furthering the frustration and suspicion.

As for the political opposition, its leaders contributed to this crisis by failing to provide necessary evidence of election fraud in all too many cases. It isn't that this evidence may not have existed, but the parties appeared to be unprepared to effectively document what the

problems were. Moreover, their refusal to take many of the seats won in the election prevented many issues from effectively being addressed in the Parliament, including the appointment of judges and guarantees of freedom of the press.

The suspicions regarding the election were exacerbated by the government's mass arrest of students in Addis in June. Protests were met with gunfire by government forces. It is estimated that as many as 40 persons identified as political activists were killed by government sharpshooters in the capital alone. Broadened arrests put tens of thousands in jail without charge or adequate contact with families or legal counsel. Further demonstrations in November resulted in at least another 40 persons killed by government forces—this time including those not connected with the political opposition.

The recently-released State Department human rights report on Ethiopia is scathing in its description of what is taking place in Ethiopia, stating that "the government's human rights record remained poor and worsened in some areas."

Among the human rights problems reported by the State Department were: limitation on citizens' right to change their government; unlawful killings, including alleged political killings, and beating, abuse, and mistreatment of detainees and opposition supporters by security forces; poor prison conditions; arbitrary arrest and detention of thousands of persons; particularly those suspected of sympathizing with or being members of the opposition; detention of thousands without charge, and lengthy pretrial detention; government infringement on citizens' privacy rights, and frequent refusal to follow the law regarding search warrants; government restrictions on freedom of the press; arrest, detention, and harassment of journalists for publishing articles critical of the government; self-censorship by journalists; government restrictions on freedom of assembly including denial of permits, burdensome preconditions or refusal to provide assembly halls to opposition political groups, and at times use of excessive force to disperse demonstrations, and government limitations on freedom of association.

Approximately 16,000 people were released from jail earlier this year, but there is uncertainty about how many more prisoners remain behind bars without being charged or while awaiting a trial whose date is not yet set.

During my visit to Addis Ababa last August, I met with Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, and I asked him why he had not investigated the June shootings of demonstrators by agents of his government. His response was that the investigation might require the arrest of opposition leaders, and he didn't want to do that while by-elections were still scheduled. He went on to tell me that he had dossiers on all the opposition leaders and could arrest them for treason whenever he wanted. Thus, their arrests were all but certain even before the events that ostensibly led to their being incarcerated. Reportedly, the investigation of the

government shootings of demonstrators is now belatedly underway.

The shootings by government forces and delayed investigation are reminiscent of an earlier incident: the massacre of Anuaks in southwestern Ethiopia beginning in December 2003 and continuing until May 2004.

The farming Anuak minority predominate the Gambella region of Ethiopia, but there have been periodic disputes with the highlanders, who are of the Tigrayan and Amharan ethnic groups. According to a Human Rights Watch report at the time, government forces joined with highlanders to kill at least 400 Anuaks in December 2003 alone and participated in the rape and torture of Anuaks. Genocide Watch and Survivors' Rights International confirmed the events described in the Human Rights Watch report.

The Government of Ethiopia announced last year that trials of government forces responsible for 13 of the Anuak killings had finally begun. However, there is no word yet on the result of these trials. While the government is engaged in such efforts, one hopes it also will investigate reports of the killing last year of 24 members and supporters of the Oromo National Congress and other allegedly politically-motivated killings by government forces in 2005.

Ethiopia has been an important ally of the United States in Africa, and the stability of one of Africa's most populous nations is critical to American policy, especially in the important Horn of Africa region. However, the violations detailed in the State Department human rights report and in other accounts of independent human rights organizations will only make this nation more vulnerable to civil war or a foreign-supported insurgency.

This past Monday, a series of explosions in Addis Ababa led to the death of one person and the wounding of three others in a blast on a crowded minibus. This was part of a wave of attacks that began in January and included three explosions earlier this month that wounded three persons at a restaurant, a market, and outside a school.

America's commitment to promote the respect for human rights around the world demands that we examine the current situation in Ethiopia and that we prevail upon our ally to live up to its international human rights commitments while this situation can still be salvaged. The discussions the Government of Ethiopia is conducting with its political opposition and with our government are good signs that some positive movement is possible. Other humanitarian gestures, for example, the eye operation the government reportedly authorized for opposition leader Hailu Shawal, are also an important step in the right direction.

However, the current situation calls for more than small steps taken slowly. If a crisis in Ethiopia is to be averted, reforms, investigations, and trials must proceed with all deliberate speed. This is why we convened a hearing on the situation in Ethiopia yesterday and

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

why I have introduced H.R. 4423—the Ethiopia Consolidation Act, which we intend to mark-up next week.

As I have said many times, “Friends don’t let friends commit human rights abuses.” This is a perfect example of why we must follow that dictum.

#### TRIBUTE TO ELDON POWELL

##### HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Eldon Powell. Mr. Powell served in the Army under General Patton with the 90th Infantry Division in Europe from 1944 to 1946. He has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for distinguishing himself by heroic service.

To best honor Mr. Powell, I would like to share with the members of this distinguished House the poem written, entitled “By My Dad’s Side” by his daughter, Sandra L. Moore.

Always I’ll remember being by my Dad’s side  
Watching him slowly rise to his feet  
To pay homage to His American Flag

The look on his face  
His posture secure  
His hand over his heart  
His eyes set only upon “Her”

And without saying a word  
And giving no thought to the crowd  
My Dad once again would remember it all  
As he would rise to his feet and pay homage  
to his call

His Call to his Country  
His God given Word  
To uphold and defend what was good, what  
was pure

To defend what was Holy  
To defend what was True  
To defend what God Himself values Precious  
and Pure

And so on every occasion, every ball game,  
parade  
When His American Flag would so proudly  
wave

There would be my Dad with his eyes fixed  
and gazed

His hand holds his heart, for at times it does  
bleed

For all those he remembers whose lives  
bought Freedom for you and me

His hand holds his heart as it swells deep  
from Pride

Remembering with Honor those who sur-  
vived

His hand holds his heart as he humbly cries  
Giving thanks to His God that  
Freedom is still Well and Alive

Yes, I’ll always remember being by my Dad’s  
side

Where I learned Honor, Respect, Sacrifice  
and Pride

Where Reverence & Allegiance were Values  
that grew

Where Love of God and Country and all Man-  
kind rang True

Yes, I’ll always remember being by my Dad’s  
side

Watching and leaning with tears in my eyes  
His reaffirming his Pledge  
Re-pledging his Vows

Vowing again and again his Allegiance with  
Pride

Giving Honor and Thanks for “Our” Amer-  
ican Flag

Just ask any veteran about American Pride  
They all tell a story with tears in their eyes  
A brotherhood bonded by the willing sac-  
rifices of men

Who for God and Country would do it all  
over again

God Bless America

May God bless Eldon Powell and all our  
Veterans. They truly are American Heroes.

#### FREEDOM FOR LAMASIEL GUTIERREZ ROMERO

##### HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Lamasiel Gutiérrez Romero, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mrs. Gutiérrez Romero is an independent journalist working so that the world can understand the grotesque reality of Castro’s hideous oppression. Using the limited tools of independent journalism in a totalitarian state, Mrs. Gutiérrez Romero courageously wrote about the bleak, broken society that is the result of the tyrannical policies of the totalitarian dictatorship. Because of Mrs. Gutiérrez Romero’s unrelenting commitment to illuminating the nightmare that is the Castro regime, she has been constantly harassed by the dictator’s thugs.

According to Reporters Without Borders, Mrs. Gutiérrez Romero was sentenced to seven months of house arrest for her journalistic activities. Despite this order, Mrs. Gutiérrez Romero continued her independent journalism. Unwilling to be muzzled by the totalitarian regime, she bravely defied their orders and continued to disseminate the truth about Cuba. Because of her unrelenting courage in the face of horrific oppression, on October 24, 2005, she was thrown in totalitarian gulag.

It is unconscionable that brave men and women can be locked up in the inhuman quarters of Castro’s gulag for their belief in truth, liberty, and democracy. Despite incessant repression, harassment, incarceration and abuse, she does not waiver in her commitment to report the truth and the facts. Mrs. Gutiérrez Romero is one of the many heroes of the peaceful Cuban democratic opposition who are locked in the dungeons of the dictatorship for their beliefs. They are symbols of freedom and democracy who will always be remembered when freedom reigns again in Cuba.

Mr. Speaker, it is unconscionable that journalists such as Mrs. Gutiérrez Romero are locked in dungeons for writing and publishing the facts about the nightmare that is the Castro regime. At the dawn of the 21st Century, it must no longer be acceptable for anyone in the world, anywhere in the world, to be locked in a gulag for writing the truth. It is repulsive to the ideal of freedom that independent journalists are locked in totalitarian gulags 90 miles from our shore. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Lamasiel Gutiérrez Romero and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

#### THE NORTHERN IRELAND PEACE PROCESS: POLICING ADVANCES AND REMAINING CHALLENGES

##### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on March 16 I cochaired a hearing on the Northern Ireland peace process, on the advances in police performance and behavior, and on the remaining challenges the Police Service of Northern Ireland faces to its becoming fully accepted as a fair and impartial police service. The hearing was my 11th hearing on Northern Ireland in not quite 9 years, and I shall continue to follow the events on Northern Ireland closely and encourage reform for as long as necessary.

This hearing helped the U.S. Congress and the American people to better understand the current issues in the always complex situation in Northern Ireland. It provided guidance to our efforts as we continue to seek to assist in the realization of a durable peace and the guarantee of fundamental human rights in Northern Ireland. The establishment of peace, justice and prosperity in Northern Ireland, which we have all hoped, worked and prayed for, is still not a reality. There are many encouraging signs, but also disturbing ones, and we are still not there yet.

One of the most encouraging developments is, of course, the IRA’s renunciation of armed struggle, and the decommissioning of its weapons—a remarkable step in the path to peace. The IRA must follow through on its proclamations and cease all criminal activities as well. The most disturbing factor, however, is the alienation of the unionist community. The large majority of decent people on the unionist side, who hope for peace as ardently as nationalists, are skeptical of IRA promises. They are also terrorized by their own paramilitaries. Those paramilitaries need to follow the IRA example, and disarm, and cease their criminal activities. They are right now one of the greatest dangers to peace and stability.

The Government of the United Kingdom has begun all party negotiations to restore the Northern Ireland Assembly and the power sharing executive. It is also preparing legislation to devolve the administration of justice and policing to a restored Northern Irish executive. Mitchell Reiss, President Bush’s Special Envoy to the Northern Ireland peace process briefed us on the current prospects and challenges facing the restoration of self-government in Northern Ireland.

There has been some progress in the continuing reform of Northern Ireland’s police force. Nearly 7 years ago I chaired a hearing on policing in Northern Ireland. Chris Patten, who had just released the famous report that bears his name, testified before us. Now we shall have a chance to hear about the progress that has been made in implementing the 175 recommendations made by the Patten Report. There is a new police force, the Policing Service of Northern Ireland, PSNI; there is a vigorous and fiercely independent Police Ombudsman’s Office, whose chief, Nuala O’Loane, has been a catalyst for reform. The Police Ombudsman’s office has been recognized as an effective mechanism for holding

the police in Northern Ireland accountable and helping people develop some confidence in a policing service that has faced credible charges of collusion in crime and assassination. In fact a poll conducted in March of last year showed that public confidence in the ombudsman's objectivity was high, with 78 percent of respondents saying they were confident that complaints were dealt with impartially.

There is now a Policing Board in Northern Ireland, composed of independent and party representatives, designed to provide civilian control and fair, nonsectarian, policing. There are district police partnerships, to guarantee that both the police and the communities they guard understand that the role of the police is to protect the community, not to impose some form of political control. The Patten Commission also envisioned a police force more representative of the whole community. Although Northern Ireland is nearly 45 percent Catholic, the old police force, the Royal Ulster Constabulary, RUC, was over 90 percent Protestant, and often seemed to function more as an auxiliary to loyalist paramilitaries than the upholder of law and order. Today, recruits to PSNI are supposed to be 50 percent Catholic, so that in time the police will hopefully be representative of the people they are supposed to protect. Now only 20 percent of the police force is Catholic. It's an improvement, but only a start. In the disturbing riots last fall and summer by unionists, the police vigorously enforced the law instead of standing aside as they often did before. This again is a hopeful sign.

But questions remain about "bad apples" who may still remain somewhere in the ranks of Northern Ireland's police and about Special Branch members. The U.S. Congress has long understood the importance of supporting police reform and community reconciliation in Northern Ireland. As the author of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for FY 2000–2001—H.R. 3427; Public Law 106–113—I have been particularly interested in training and or exchange programs conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation or other Federal law enforcement agencies for the RUC, now PSNI. In fact it was my legislation that suspended all FBI–RUC training until 2001, when President Bush certified that the human rights and vetting standards established by my legislation were implemented in the program.

In this year's State Department Authorization Bill, which I sponsored and which passed the House overwhelmingly, 351–78, I included funds to provide specialized investigative training for personnel in the office of the Police Ombudsman to ensure that policing in Northern Ireland is carried out in compliance with internationally recognized human rights standards. We also amended the authorization for the International Fund for Ireland, IFI, to provide up to \$7 million for programs that enhance relations between communities, and between the police and the communities they serve, promote human rights training for police, enhance peaceful mediation in neighborhoods of continued conflict, promote training programs to enhance the new district partnership police boards, and assist in the transition of former British military installations and prisons into sites for peaceful, community-supported activities, such as housing, retail, and commercial development. We hope the Senate will act soon on this important legislation.

The Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill—now Public Law 109–102—specifically allows the IFI to use the U.S. contribution to be used for training police to promote human rights and rule of law, and to foster improved relations between police and the communities they serve.

But one remaining area of great concern are the more than 3,000 unsolved murders between 1969 and the signing of the Good Friday agreement in 1998. Punishment of the guilty in many cases may not be possible, because of previous amnesties which have been granted to promote peace in Northern Ireland. But true peace and true democracy cannot be founded on lies and cover-ups. An integral part of police reform is investigation of police and government collusion in past criminal acts. Only the truth can guarantee that Northern Ireland's new police force is established on a sound basis of respect for law and justice, something the previous force, the RUC could never claim. Only the truth can guarantee that the people of Northern Ireland accept their police as legitimate.

The government has recently instituted the Historical Enquiries Team to investigate and resolve these cases. This has the potential—if operated with transparency and openness—to be a critical, helpful step. Time will tell. Meanwhile, there are several cases which require special attention. The British and Irish Governments in 2001 jointly appointed Judge Peter Cory, a preeminent retired justice of the Supreme Court of Canada to determine whether independent commissions should investigate possible state sponsored collusion in six notorious and horrific murders. They also pledged to abide by his recommendations. Two years ago Judge Cory issued his report and called for five of the six murders to be investigated independently. Yet the British Government has still not appointed an inquiry commission into the murder of the human rights attorney Patrick Finucane, who was gunned down in his home, in front of his wife and three small children, in 1989. Every 1 of the past 10 hearings I have chaired on human rights and police reform in Northern Ireland has dealt with Patrick Finucane's murder. Yet still nothing has been done. The Government of the UK must find a way to institute a credible inquiry which will be accepted by all, especially the Finucane family. The British Government has finally begun its inquiry commission, as demanded by Judge Cory, into police misconduct in the murder of Rosemary Nelson, another heroic human rights lawyer, and mother of three, who fell victim to a car bomb in March 1999. Rosemary, 6 months earlier had testified before my committee about the harassment, intimidation and threats made against her by the RUC. No one has ever been charged in her murder. That inquiry was finally begun on April 19 but has made little progress so far, and serious questions remain as to whether the investigation is being conducted properly. If the population of Northern Ireland is to cease relying on paramilitaries for protection, and transfer its trust to the police, it must have confidence that the police and the authorities deserve trust. These inquiries need to be done, and done well, as soon as possible.

Finally, although political reform and police reform are absolute preconditions for all progress, only economic development can finally end the terrible poverty, among both

Catholics and Protestants, nationalists and unionists, which helps breed the violence. Fully employed, prosperous and prospering people, who can see tomorrow as better than today, rarely attack their neighbors. The Catholic and nationalist community, although worried, looks on the fulfillment of the Good Friday agreements with great hope. Too many in the unionist community, unfortunately, have been exploited by extremists to look upon all gains by Catholics as setbacks for themselves, that all jobs that Catholics get, as jobs that they lose. Only economic development can provide the jobs, the housing, the public services that all the people of Northern Ireland, in both communities, need for a better life. We have continued our support—\$13.5 million in 2006—for the International Fund for Ireland for both 2006 and 2007, not only to promote police reform, as I mentioned above, but also to promote economic development which is critical to achieving a just and lasting peace. Now that we are nearer to success, this is no time to falter in our efforts.

The IFI has played a vital role in economic progress in Northern Ireland. The U.S. has contributed over half of the total fund, about \$400 million in the past 20 years. And it has helped. In the 1990's Northern Ireland's unemployment fell by 40 percent. The fund has created nearly 38,000 jobs. But the IFI does not only fund material progress, and its greatest achievements are not material: It has also developed a series of community building programs, promoting greater dialogue and understanding between Catholic and Protestant, including leadership programs designed to develop a new generation of leaders in Northern Ireland to bring about a more peaceful and prosperous future in the region. Young people are the key to the future everywhere, but in Northern Ireland they are absolutely crucial to breaking the cycle of discrimination and sectarian violence once and for all. For this reason our authorization bill continues support for "Project Children," to bring together Catholic and Protestant participants from the Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom, and the United States, to help build peace in Northern Ireland through its children and young people.

Besides Mitchell Reiss, we heard testimony from the Right Honorable Sir Desmond Rea, chairman, Northern Ireland Policing Board; Mr. Denis Bradley, vice chairman, Northern Ireland Policing Board; Ms. Maggie Beirne, director, Committee for the Administration of Justice; Ms. Jane Winter, director, British Irish Rights Watch; Ms. Archana Pyati, senior associate, Human Rights Defenders Program, Human Rights First.

TRIBUTE TO MR. FRANKLIN E.  
FORD

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Franklin "Frank" Ford recognizing his recently revealed contributions to the U.S.-led allied victory in World War II as designer and superintendent for The Dow Chemical Company's ethylene plant.

During World War II, Imperial Japan blocked shipments of natural rubber to the U.S. As necessity is the mother of invention, the U.S.

was forced to develop synthetic rubber to relieve the U.S. military of its dependence on imported rubber.

Mr. Ford and a team of dedicated engineers at The Dow Chemical Company in Midland, Michigan, developed and pioneered domestic ethylene production, which as the precursor to synthetic rubber, was used to supply the U.S. with critical resources necessary to win the war. Ethylene continues to have practical, widespread applications today in plastic bags, paints, antifreeze and car components.

Until recently Mr. Ford's family was unaware of his impact on Dow and his important role in developing ethylene. He is being honored today at the Herbert D. Doan Historical Museum in Midland and finally getting the recognition he and others deserve.

Like so many in Mr. Ford's generation, he never asked for any credit, recognition or accolades for his work or the work of his team during the war. He did not ask for a blue ribbon or a tickertape parade. He is among the many anonymous Americans who quietly, selflessly did his job on the home front to win the war overseas.

That is why more than 60 years after World War II it is a privilege for me to publicly recognize Mr. Ford and his team at The Dow Chemical Company as unsung heroes and acknowledge their contributions to the U.S. during a time of world war.

### WELL DONE!—ATLANTA GAS LIGHT

#### HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on February 16th of this year, Atlanta Gas Light celebrated 150 years of quality and continued service to the people of Georgia. What a privilege it is to take this opportunity to thank Atlanta Gas Light for being a leader in innovation and economic development.

Natural gas is a cornerstone of the energy supply for Georgia residents and businesses. From cooking food and heating our homes to lighting our streets, natural gas has helped make Atlanta the commercial leader of the Southeast.

Atlanta Gas Light has become a community leader as well volunteering time and money and giving back to the citizens of Georgia. In addition to their own accomplishments, Atlanta Gas Light recognizes other community leaders in Georgia with its Shining Light Award. Since 1963, recipients of the Shining Light Award have been recognized by gas lamps erected throughout the city in their honor. This is just one of the many ways Atlanta Gas Light continues to give back to the City of Atlanta and the State of Georgia.

I applaud Atlanta Gas Light on their first 150 years as a business and community leader. Without a doubt, their continued leadership will help Atlanta grow and remain the center of the Southeast for the 21st Century.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to inclement weather, I was unable to vote during the following rollcall vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as indicated below.

Rollcall No. 68: yea.

### MONITORING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on March 16, 2006, I chaired a hearing to review the State Department's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2005 and, in the context of those reports, to examine the state of respect for human rights around the world.

Human rights are not a concession or benefit conferred by the state. They are the entitlement of every human person on the basis of that person's inherent dignity and worth. Thus the Universal Declaration for Human Rights and subsequent international human rights treaties did not establish human rights—they recognized those rights. Therefore, human rights cannot be abrogated or otherwise removed by any government. They are entitlements pre-existing and superseding the prerogatives of the government, and as such are either respected or violated.

Certain human rights are fundamental, and are the basis for the recognition and enjoyment of all other human rights. Foremost of these rights is the right to life. If a human being is denied or threatened with the denial of life, the existence of other rights is meaningless. And attempts to exclude any category of human beings from the inviolable right to life at the whim of expediency or the more powerful undermines and threatens the respect of life for all peoples. A determination to take the life of one human being easily translates into taking the life of another, limited only by the relative power of the aggressor and the vulnerability of the one whose life is threatened. It is for these reasons that the life of every human being, from conception to natural death, is of such critical, overriding importance.

As affirmed by the Universal Declaration for Human Rights, liberty, justice and peace in the world are built on the foundation of the recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family. Human rights are central to United States foreign policy not only because they are a moral imperative but also because they are central to any effort to establish and maintain a democratic, peaceful, stable society. Those who ignore or repudiate human rights are sowing the seeds of instability, rebellion and violence.

It is therefore disturbing that human rights concerns are often subordinated to other concerns, such as trade, cooperation on terrorism, immigration control, or selling military equip-

ment, in the name of maintaining relations with countries of high importance to U.S. strategic goals. This misses the point. The most important U.S. interest is the promotion of freedom and democracy and long-term stability. We are strong enough, and we are prosperous enough that we have no need to accept blood money or to send refugees back to persecution or to seek our alliances among regimes that murder and torture their own people.

The Country Reports are among the most important tasks undertaken by the Department of State. These reports allow the United States an opportunity to bear witness, to reassert fundamental principles, and also to examine its own conscience about whether its foreign policy comports with these principles. Other annual reports, such as the Trafficking in Persons report and the report on International Religious Freedom, also shine the spotlight on specific human rights areas which bear closer examination.

Although the human rights mechanism of the United Nations is not directly germane to the release of the Country Reports, the importance of the recent adoption by the General Assembly of the resolution establishing the new Human Rights Council is of such importance that I included it in the discussions of the hearing. I personally am deeply disappointed and dismayed that the United Nations adopted such a weak and deeply flawed replacement for the discredited Human Rights Commission.

Furthermore, the new Council's anticipated promotion of the goals and commitments "emanating" from UN conferences and summits, measures not intended by negotiating member states to be on a par with human rights treaties, will dilute and trivialize the solemn importance rightly attributed to fundamental human rights. Many of us in Congress will be watching the development of the new Council closely, and we strongly encourage the Administration to work assiduously to not only ensure that this new council promotes and defends human rights but also that it does not distort the established and accepted framework of fundamental human rights.

The 2005 Country Reports document several important steps forward taken by governments around the world to respect and protect the fundamental human rights of their citizens. Burundi concluded a four-year transitional process and large numbers of displaced persons were encouraged to return home. The election of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf in Liberia marked "a significant milestone" in that country's efforts to achieve democracy and peace. Afghanistan experienced its first parliamentary elections in almost 30 years, with women enthusiastically participating. And in Ukraine, the Orange Revolution resulted in a democratically elected government and a notable improvement in respect for human rights.

Unfortunately, the news is not all good. The Country Reports also serve to confirm and document what we knew already, that the last year has not been a good one for the state of human rights in the world. The Zimbabwean government's Operation Restore Order led to the demolition of houses and businesses and displaced or destroyed the livelihoods of more than 700,000 people. The government of Belarus President Lukashenko detained, fined, and imprisoned pro-democracy activists, including opposition politicians, students and newspaper editors, for criticizing him and his

regime. And the people of Nepal continued to suffer many serious human rights abuses, both during and after the February–April state of emergency that suspended all fundamental rights except for habeas corpus—and even habeas corpus orders issued by the court were not respected.

The totalitarian governments of China, North Korea, Vietnam and Cuba all continued their persecution of political and religious dissidents. The Chinese government and security forces, in particular, are cited by the 2005 Reports as having increased their harassment, detention and imprisonment of those perceived to be a threat to government authority. The government considers the number of death sentences to be a state secret, but foreign experts estimated that between 5,000 and 10,000 persons are executed each year. There were claims that 20 public protesters were killed last year during one demonstration, and the state-run media reported that in general 460 persons were killed through abuse or dereliction of duty. The UN Special Rapporteur on Torture Manfred Nowak reported after his November visit that torture in China remains widespread.

One of the most egregious human rights abuses that is receiving grossly insufficient global attention is the one-child per family policy enforced in China since 1979. The policy says that if a woman happens to become pregnant with a second child, despite the government's best efforts to assure that this does not happen, then the parent must pay a heavy penalty or unborn child must be aborted. Heavy fines are imposed upon couples who have an "unapproved" child. These so-called "social compensation fees" can be up to ten times a person's annual salary, compelling them to abort the baby.

The Chinese government goes to appalling lengths to enforce its one-child limit, abusing the rights of Chinese women, in particular, to a degree that is unique in both kind and degree. For example, Government Family Planning Bureaus conduct periodic pregnancy tests on married women, and give them unspecified "follow-up" services. Fines for failing to undergo these tests can be as high as \$60 US. It should therefore not be surprising that approximately 500 women in China commit suicide each day—more than five times the global rate. Possible reasons given for this tragic statistic include that country's birth limitation policies and the traditional preference for male children.

Officials who help individuals to evade the birth limitations are legally subject to significant and detailed sanctions. On the other hand, those who meet the population goals established by their administrative region are rewarded. Thus, it is no wonder that local officials violated individual's rights in attempting to reduce the number of births in their region. The 2005 Reports state that in just one province, 130,000 people were detained to force them or their relatives to submit to abortion or sterilization procedures. Several late-term abortions were documented, and at least 7,000 people were forcibly sterilized. Local officials profited personally from the fees charged for attendance at the "population schools." One legal activist was placed under house arrest for exposing these abuses. Other instances of forced sterilizations and abortions, committed in pursuance of these harsh birth limitation policies, were again documented.

The combined effect of the birth limitation policies and the traditional preference for male children resulted in the disproportionate abortion of female fetuses at a rate of 116.9 to 100 overall, and a shocking 151.9 to 100 for second pregnancies. As a direct result of these ongoing crimes against humanity, China today is missing millions of girls, girls who were murdered in the womb simply because they are girls. A couple of years ago, the State Department suggested that as many as 100 million girls of all ages are missing—that is to say, they should be alive and well and are not, a direct consequence of the government's one-child policy. This gendercide constitutes one of humanity's worst blights, and a far greater peril to peace and security than is being credited at this time.

Elsewhere in the world, dictatorships in Belarus and Burma were unsurprisingly similar in their oppressive methods of control to maintain power. Security forces in both countries arbitrarily arrested and detained citizens for political reasons. Police abuse and torture of prisoners continued in Belarus, and in Burma, abuses also included rape, beatings, forcible relocation of populations, and conscription of child soldiers.

In Africa, human rights abuses continued to be widespread throughout the continent. In Ethiopia, the refusal of the opposition parties to accept the announced results of the May elections resulted in serious human rights abuses. Authorities arbitrarily detained, beat and killed opposition members and freedom of the press and freedom of assembly were severely curtailed. In addition to the forced displacement mentioned earlier, Zimbabwe once again went through the charade of elections that in fact were marked by fraud and the improper participation of security forces in the tabulation of ballots, irregularities in voter registration, and continued restrictions on speech, press and assembly.

The world is all too aware of the continuing tragic situation in Sudan. According to the World Health Organization, the conflict in Darfur has resulted in the deaths of at least 70,000 civilians, the internal-displacement of more than 1.9 million civilians, and the flight of an estimated 210,000 refugees to neighboring Chad. When confronted with such numbers, one must also take into account the attending human rights violations, including the abuse of children, extensive trafficking in persons, and the acts of torture and violence against women.

The human rights record of Iran also worsened this past year, with numerous troubling violations reported. The government executed many political dissidents following trials that lacked due process. Dissent was criminalized and the death penalty applied to such offenses as apostasy, "attempts against the security of the State, outrage against high-ranking officials and insults against the memory of Imam Khomeini and against the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic." A report released during the past year stated that at least 8 evangelical Christians have been killed in Iran and another 15 to 23 reported missing or "disappeared" over the past 15 years.

Also alarming were the reports of serious human rights violations by governments with which the United States enjoys a close relationship. The 2005 Reports give no indication that Saudi Arabia is correcting its traditional disregard for religious freedom. Officially sanc-

tioned discrimination against the Shi'a Muslim minority continued, and Christians still faced arrest and detention for practicing their faith, even in the privacy of their own homes. One newspaper reported that 40 Pakistani citizens, including one Muslim, were arrested after holding Christian services in an apartment. Other human rights abuses took place in Saudi Arabia as well, including abuse of prisoners by security forces, arbitrary arrests, and legal and societal discrimination against women.

Finally, I continue to be deeply troubled by the lack of respect for human rights and religious freedom in Vietnam. Vietnam is a one-party state run by the Communists which oppressively controls the ordinary lives of its citizens, rigidly represses political rights, and denies its people the exercise of their religious freedom. The Country Report on Vietnam documents that the government subjected religious leaders to administrative detention, "pagoda arrest," and varying degrees of informal detention in their residences. Citizens who tried to exercise their rights to practice their religion, assembly, or expression also were detained at times for several days by security forces. Such conduct should not be ignored when a country is seeking stronger economic relations with the United States.

In conclusion, the biggest challenge with the Country Reports is not the reporting itself, but the uses to which this human rights reporting will be put to achieve universal respect for human rights and thus greater peace and stability in our world. Human rights can not be the work of one political officer in the Embassy who prepares the annual report once a year and then turns to other tasks. Rather, it must be the foundation on which our bilateral relationships are based.

The cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy must be the promotion of American values, which include the protection and advancement of fundamental human rights of people around the world. The moral character and depth of soul of any society will be measured not by its military might, technological prowess, athletic excellence or GDP, but by the respect it accords to the inherent dignity and worth of every person who lives within its borders.

#### RECOGNIZING DR. I. KING JORDAN FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY AND THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEAR- ING COMMUNITY

SPEECH OF

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 28, 2006*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express my strong support for H. Res. 680 and to pay tribute to the long and distinguished career of Dr. I. King Jordan, the first deaf President of Gallaudet University. Dr. Jordan's compelling life story, keen intellect, and unbridled passion have combined to make him an extraordinary educational leader, one of our nation's foremost advocates for people with disabilities, and an international leader and role model for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Over the 18 years that he has served as University President, as well as his years as

Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Chair of the Psychology Department, Gallaudet University has thrived under Dr. Jordan's leadership. Gallaudet is the world's only university in which all programs and services are specifically designed for deaf and hard of hearing students. As President, Dr. Jordan dramatically expanded the University's endowment, improved and expanded academic programs, added new facilities, and recruited world-class faculty and administrators.

I got to know Dr. Jordan during the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which was signed into law in 1990. Dr. Jordan was a lead witness during a joint session of Congress and delivered key testimony, which was instrumental to the passage of this landmark civil rights legislation.

Dr. Jordan has never relented in his commitment to improving the lives of people with disabilities. Last year, I was privileged to join Dr. Jordan in receiving the George Bush Medal for the Empowerment of People with Disabilities. That distinguished award is just one of the many that Dr. Jordan has received for his work. His numerous accomplishments and awards include no fewer than eleven honorary degrees, the Washingtonian of the Year, the James L. Fisher Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), the Larry Stewart Award from the American Psychological Association, the Distinguished Leadership Award from the National Association for Community Leadership, and the U.S. Presidential Citizens Medal.

In 1990, President George Bush appointed Dr. Jordan Vice-Chair of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (PCEPD), and in 1993 he was later reappointed as Vice-Chair by President Clinton of this influential body that made national recommendations on issues of employment.

Dr. Jordan recently announced that he will retire as Gallaudet's first deaf President on December 31, 2006. While the University will be losing a remarkable leader, I know that Dr. Jordan will continue to be a driving force in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my deep gratitude to Dr. Jordan on behalf of the millions of individuals he has helped and inspired throughout his career. His tireless efforts have improved not only Gallaudet University, but also our nation and our world. I wish Dr. Jordan the best of luck in his retirement. His leadership and legacy will never be forgotten.

#### DEFINING PROTECTIONISM DOWN

#### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, one of the most disturbing trends that we have seen recently is that of those who would adopt rules abolishing any restrictions on the untrammelled flow of capital around the world, taking away from countries their sovereign rights to impose restrictions that serve legitimate national interests. This applies both to direct foreign investment, and even more to the notion that short-term purely financial investments must be allowed under any circumstances whatsoever. As Daniel Davies notes in a British newspaper, the *Guardian*,

while it is true that the general rule should be to allow cross-border purchases of companies, "there are, quite feasibly, a lot of uncommon but not impossible situations in which a democratic government might want to pass a law about the operations of a company, and not want to find itself being taken to a WTO tribunal for doing so." He correctly says in closing, "Of course, there is not really all that much to be said for local ownership restrictions in most cases . . . But on the other hand, nor is it 'protectionism.' The case for capital market openness is very much weaker than the case for goods market openness and we should all resist the attempt to define down protectionism."

[From the *Guardian*, Mar. 20, 2006]

#### DEFINING PROTECTIONISM DOWN

(By Daniel Davies)

Economic "protectionism" is back in the news with a vengeance, with France objecting to takeovers in the steel sector, Spain putting together national champion utilities and the USA crying blue murder over Dubai Ports World's proposed acquisition of P&O. James Surowiecki had an article in the Saturday *Guardian* painstakingly setting out the conventional wisdom on this subject (ie, that it's very bad). Trouble is, this isn't really what "protectionism" means.

Basically and historically, "protectionism" (and "mercantilism" and related terms) always used to refer to tariff policy, with respect to goods markets and trade between buyers and sellers. The use of the terms to refer to policies about capital markets and ownership of companies is a new one; I spotted it beginning to arise in the *FT* and *Economist* around the beginning of the 1990s and have been writing Mr Angry letters on the subject ever since. Because capital markets "protectionism" is much less bad than the goods market type and might not even be bad at all.

It's easy to explain why tariffs are bad. They're a tax on a particular economic activity—trade. Because of this, they cause people to do things that they wouldn't otherwise do in order to avoid the tariff, or not to do things they otherwise would do because the cost of the tariff means it isn't worth their while. There is a deadweight loss associated with this, and empirically it turns out that this deadweight cost is substantial. That's why tariffs are bad, and why we have a WTO dedicated to removing them.

On the other hand, ownership of a company isn't an economic activity at all (because "ownership" isn't an activity, it's something you can do while sleeping, in a coma or even dead). So it is much harder to see how any deadweight loss can be created by placing taxes or other kinds of barriers on overseas investment in domestic companies. The very fact that James Surowiecki in his article has to appeal to "the discipline of the takeover market on inefficient managements" ought to raise eyebrows here. If there is one thing we do know about the discipline of the stock market, it's that it's a very weak force for good indeed, if it's a force for good at all. And the empirical evidence bears this out as well; while the gains from goods markets liberalisation are big and definitely there, the gains from capital account liberalisation are small and frustratingly difficult to detect, no matter what econometric techniques you bring to bear.

Set against this, there are on occasion quite legitimate reasons why one might want to put curbs on the foreign ownership of domestic industries. Most particularly, you might want to be absolutely sure that you can govern them via domestic national laws. There is a lot of ill-founded paranoia

about "multinationals", but it is true that a company with multinational operations has a lot more wriggle room when it comes to regulations it doesn't like. Furthermore, you can keep a lot more control over the tax base, and over things like shipping records and accounts which are usually stored in head office. Even the Thatcher governments recognised this, which is why the government used to have a "golden share" in a lot of privatisation companies. There are, quite feasibly, a lot of uncommon but not impossible situations in which a democratic government might want to pass a law about the operations of a company, and not want to find itself being taken to a WTO tribunal for doing so.

And this is what the root of the problem is, I think. The rise of cross-border ownership of companies has gone hand in hand with the rise of a lot of bogus WTO cases trumped up by multinational companies which don't like the way in which they are being regulated in one of their countries of operation, and have managed to convince someone that it is a restraint of international trade. At about the time that the new usage of the word "protectionism" was being popularised, the international civil service was trying to negotiate something called the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI). If it had been passed, this would have more or less guaranteed to foreign investors in any country that they would be able to carry out business in the same way in which they did in their own country. The fact that this would lead to a lowest-common-denominator effect pretty quickly was, of course, not an unintended consequence—this was the grand high era of neoliberalism, after all. However, more or less for this reason, the MAI was incredibly unpopular (particularly in the USA, where there are all sorts of local regulations and industry sweetheart deals which everyone wanted to preserve) and it died the death of a thousand committees.

Ever since the death of the MAI, global civil servants at places like the EU and the WTO have been trying to resurrect it. They've been doing this, as far as I can see, by attempting to blur the distinction between goods market and capital market protection. I've mentioned that the WTO is chock full of bogus cases where regulations on a local subsidiary of a large company have been portrayed as a restraint of trade, but the EU is if anything worse; the office of Charlie McCreevy and the Single Market Directorate Generale of the EU have a really nasty habit of claiming that the "right of establishment" of the Treaty of Rome gives them the power to force through any cross-border merger in Europe in the face of government opposition. So the linguistic confusion between "protectionism" in the sense of tariffs and "protectionism" in the sense of local ownership restrictions is not really all that innocent.

Of course, there is not really all that much to be said for local ownership restrictions in most cases. If someone wants to buy shares in a company, the fact that he comes from overseas is usually not a very good reason to stop him. But on the other hand, nor is it "protectionism". Even Adam Smith had very different opinions on free trade in goods markets, versus international investment. The case for capital market openness is very much weaker than the case for goods market openness and we should all resist the attempt to define down protectionism.

CONGRATULATING CLIFFORD AND RUTH MELBERGER AS THEY RECEIVE THE DISTINGUISHED COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD FROM THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Clifford and Ruth Melberger, of West Pittston, PA. This year, the Anti Defamation League of Eastern Pennsylvania has selected them to be the recipients of the Distinguished Community Service Award.

Both Ruth and Clifford have been long time champions of the greater Wyoming Valley, the community in which they were both born and raised. They have consistently committed themselves to their family, educational programs and the growth of the region for current and future generations.

Since her days as an art teacher in West Pittston and East Pennsboro High Schools, Ruth has worked with many community associations. She is presently on the board of directors of the Scranton Cultural Center, the West Pittston Cemetery Association, the West Pittston Historical Society and she has been a volunteer for the Meals on Wheels program for 14 years. She is also an elder in her church.

Ruth also served on the President's Council of Wilkes University, the boards of directors of the Pittston YMCA and the Scranton Council for Literacy Advance. She also headed the West Pittston Shade Tree Commission for 15 years.

Ruth and Clifford founded Diversified Information Technologies, an information management company of which Clifford serves as president and chief executive officer.

Clifford is currently on the board of trustees of Wilkes University, the steering committee of the Great Valley Technology Alliance, board of directors of the State of PA Business Roundtable and he is an elder in his church.

Clifford was a member of the board of trustees of Bucknell University as president of their National Alumni Association. He was also a member of the board of Team Pennsylvania, the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce, Scranton Tomorrow, the Downtown Wilkes-Barre Touchdown Club and the Bison Athletic Club of Bucknell University.

Clifford received the Arthritis Foundation's 1998 Community Leader of the Year Award for Northeastern Pennsylvania, the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce National/International Business of the Year Award, the Ben Franklin Partnership Award for Excellence of Innovation, Bucknell University's Bison Club Award for outstanding contributions to the University's athletic program and a member of the Wyoming Area High School and Bucknell University Athletic Halls of Fame.

Clifford is also the namesake for the "Melberger Award," an annual award presented to the most valuable Division III college football player in the nation.

Ruth and Clifford are committed to educational causes as both attended college on scholarships. They have established the Ruth Boorum Melberger scholarship at Wilkes University, a Player of the Game scholarship at

Wilkes University and Bucknell University for each home football game and named scholarships in honor and memory of family members at Bucknell University.

Ruth earned a bachelor's degree in art education with minors in English and social studies from Wilkes University and Clifford earned a bachelors degree in business administration and a masters degree in education from Bucknell University.

They have two children and six grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Melbergers. Their commitment to community service is exemplary and it is fitting that the Anti Defamation League should honor them in this way. Clearly, the Melbergers have improved the quality of life in the greater Wyoming Valley.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to explain how I would have voted on March 28, 2006 during rollcall votes No. 68 and No. 69 during the second session of the 109th Congress. The first vote was for H.R. 4882—the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center Deadline Enforcement Act—and the second was S. 2120—the Milk Regulatory Equity Act of 2005.

If present, I would have voted "yes" on these rollcall votes.

### RECOGNIZING DR. I. KING JORDAN FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY AND THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMUNITY

SPEECH OF

### HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the impressive career of Dr. I. King Jordan, as he retires from his presidency of Gallaudet University. For many years, Dr. Jordan has tirelessly served his community as an advocate and a champion for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. For the past 18 years, he has served as the president of the only institution of higher learning serving primarily deaf and hearing impaired students. I am proud to call Dr. Jordan a friend and honored to have had the opportunity to work with him in his capacity of university president over the years.

Under Dr. Jordan's tenure as president, Gallaudet University has seen tremendous growth, with an increased endowment and strong progress in many academic areas. Dr. Jordan has raised awareness of the important educational contributions Gallaudet makes to the Nation and the world.

As the first deaf president of Gallaudet University, Dr. Jordan served as a role model, as well as an advocate. One of his legacies at Gallaudet will be the President's Fellows pro-

gram, which he established to increase the number of deaf and hearing impaired faculty. His unwavering support and belief that all individuals, regardless of disabilities, should be encouraged to fulfill their potential has inspired countless students, faculty and others in the deaf and hearing impaired community to work towards that end.

Dr. Jordan has accomplished a great deal in his professional career. I am pleased to have this opportunity to acknowledge his service to Gallaudet and his efforts to improve the quality of life for individuals who are deaf and hearing impaired, and individuals with disabilities. I thank him for his dedication and I urge all of my colleagues to support H. Res. 680.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ROBERT C. SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, on the afternoon of March 16, 2006, I was at the White House for a meeting with the President and was unavoidably detained, thereby causing me to miss five rollcall votes. I would like to submit this statement for the record to reflect how I would have voted had I been present.

On rollcall No. 55, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; on rollcall No. 56, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall No. 57, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; on rollcall No. 58, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall No. 59, had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall vote No. 57 on H.R. 4939, my vote was mistakenly recorded as "nay" when I should have said "aye." I ask unanimous consent that my statement appear in the RECORD immediately following rollcall vote No. 57.

### VETERANS' MEMORIAL MARKER ACT OF 2006

### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I am proud to introduce H.R. 5038, the Veterans' Memorial Marker Act of 2006. The Subcommittee's Ranking Member, SHELLEY BERKLEY, joins me as an original cosponsor of this bill.

H.R. 5038 would extend for 1 year the Department of Veterans Affairs' authority to provide a government marker for the marked grave of a veteran buried in a private cemetery. Under current law, this authority will expire on December 31, 2006. In addition, the



bill would extend eligibility of this benefit to include deaths occurring on or after November 1, 1990. Currently, this benefit is only available for deaths occurring on or after September 11, 2001.

This bill would also authorize the VA to provide a government marker or memorial headstone for eligible deceased dependent children whose remains are unavailable for burial. Today, the VA is only authorized to provide a marker or memorial headstone to commemorate a veteran or spouse whose remains are unavailable for burial.

Mr. Speaker, the Nation owes a debt of gratitude to the men and women who served in the armed forces of the United States. This is but one way we can commemorate and memorialize their service and sacrifice.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

**KEEP AMERICA COMPETITIVE  
GLOBAL WARMING POLICY ACT  
OF 2006**

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Keep America Competitive global Warming Policy Act of 2006. I am pleased to be joined in introducing this bill by my colleague from Wisconsin, the Honorable Tom Petri.

We introduce this legislation in the face of a rapidly strengthening scientific consensus that the Earth is warming faster over the last few decades than at any time ever in the geologic record. Ten of the last 15 years have been the hottest years since we began recording global temperatures. There are prolonged droughts across the United States, such as in my home state of New Mexico. Other parts of the country have seen record precipitation and floods. In Representative Petri's home state of Wisconsin, average winter temperatures are increasing, leading to thinner ice and earlier melts on as much as 80% of the state's lakes. Dramatic melting has been seen in icecaps, glaciers, and sea ice on both poles and high mountain regions around the world. And, as we all know, the North Atlantic saw a record number of deadly hurricanes in 2005. The increase in the frequency of severe storms has been directly linked to an increase in sea surface temperatures. It is also very worrisome that sea surface temperatures are already above normal this year.

Scientists are in almost unanimous agreement that most of the global warming and the resultant extreme weather events are directly related to the build-up in the atmosphere of carbon dioxide released from the burning of fossil fuels. To date, the United States has done nothing to address the most serious environmental issue any of us will ever encounter. We must begin, and we must begin now. However, any emissions reduction policy we enact must minimize economic harm and dislocation.

That is why we are introducing this legislation today. Our bill will help America curb our emissions but is designed to avoid an economically devastating price run-up that will cause harm and dislocation to American businesses and workers. The Keep America Com-

petitive Global Warming Policy Act will spur innovation and keep America in the technological lead. In addition, by engaging the developing world in efforts to combat global warming, our bill makes certain that the United States will not be placed at a competitive disadvantage to other countries. Our bill also acknowledges that technology is the long-term solution to global warming. Thus, an integral part of our legislation will devote substantial resources exclusively to the research and development of low and no-carbon technologies.

The bill is an economy-wide, upstream, cap-and-trade policy that covers all greenhouse gas emissions. However, to ensure that the cost is both modest and certain, the bill provides for an unlimited number of additional "safety valve" allowances. These allowances will be sold by the Treasury Department at a fixed and reasonable price, which will escalate over time. Also, to bring about the participation of developing countries on addressing global warming, we tie the safety valve escalator to the emissions-control activities of the five largest developing country greenhouse gas emitters. This ensures that America will not be put at a competitive disadvantage if the developing countries do not join the effort.

We know that there may be less emissions reduction with a safety valve than without one. However, the cost certainty and the modest starting cost of the safety valve allowances provide assurance that there will not be economic harm from the adoption of this global warming policy. We believe it is better to have a policy that works slowly yet surely rather than one that might prove unworkable. Many companies have expressed the need for a safety valve in any mandatory greenhouse emissions control legislation, including the largest utility in my home state of New Mexico. Every day here in Congress, we debate the trade-offs between cost and effectiveness. We expect that the debate on how to best address carbon emissions and global warming will continue for some time. But the most important thing is that the House of Representatives actually begin that debate.

Taking into account the potential for some economic harm as the economy adjusts to this policy, our legislation allocates allowances to those people, entities, and localities that may incur dislocations because of this legislation. Additional allowances will be used to ensure that the legislation is revenue-neutral.

Our legislation also builds upon the 2005 recommendation of the National Academy of Sciences in its "Rising Above the Gathering Storm" report recommending the creation of an organization within the Department of Energy modeled on the Defense Department's Advanced Research Projects Agency, also known as DARPA. The goal of this E-ARPA is to explore the truly out-of-the-box, high-risk, high-payoff research that will be necessary if we are to get to a low or no-carbon dioxide and greenhouse gas world.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is modest, certain, and efficient. It begins the process of committing America to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions and addressing the global warming issue by having emitters internalize the costs of the problems associated with global warming. This monumental step of putting a price on carbon and other greenhouse gases will stabilize greenhouse gas emissions and eventually reduce them, finally putting the United States on the road toward curbing the effects of global warming.

I urge my colleagues in the House to co-sponsor this comprehensive and economically rational legislation and help break the stalemate that exists on the global warming issue.

**TRIBUTE TO HERB SWARZMAN**

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Herb Swarzman, a leader in Florida's gulf coast community. This past weekend, Herb was honored by the Tampa Committee of AIPAC for his years of service to the organization and to Israel.

Since his first trip to Israel in 1978, Herb has been a tireless advocate for the Israeli people and the Israeli-American partnership. Herb has served as a liaison between leaders in the two governments, including working with Florida leaders like Representatives MICHAEL BILIRAKIS and Senator Connie Mack.

I have gotten to personally know Herb and his lovely wife Joyce over the years, and I can tell you that Herb is a great credit to our community.

In addition to his work strengthening ties between America and Israel, Herb has taken a leadership role serving his fellow Florida citizens. Whether it is helping to raise funds for the Retired Enlisted Association, Dartmouth's alumni association or getting involved in local veterans' advocacy organizations, Herb's energy and commitment to the region is unmatched.

Herb has also established himself as a leader in Israeli-American relations over the past 30 years. He currently serves as chairman of the AIPAC Tampa Bay Committee, a member of the AIPAC Executive Committee, chairman of the Florida Institute, and a board member and executive committee member of the Tampa Jewish Federation.

Mr. Speaker, it is because of Herb's dedication to the Israeli-American partnership that he was honored by the Tampa Committee for AIPAC. Herb is not just a dedicated family man, but also a proud and productive American and a walking tribute to the Israeli spirit and to AIPAC's goal of education.

**TRIBUTE TO DAVID W. HIGUERA**

**HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to David W. Higuera, the police chief of Parachute, CO. He is retiring in April after 22 years of service to our community.

Chief Higuera and his wife, Willa, have raised three children in Parachute—Jeff, Jenny, and Jake. He has been actively involved in Parachute and has contributed greatly in a variety of ways. As a member of the Parachute Police Department, he has played a key role in ensuring that the safety and well being of the citizens of the community are paramount, and that they are protected in their homes, businesses, and schools. While his years of service have resulted in a number of achievements, the accomplishment for which he is probably the



proudest has been the creation of a resource officer position at the Grand Valley High School.

While his work in law enforcement has been critical to the community, he has also made significant contributions in other ways. He remains active with the St. John Middle School football program and for many years was the assistant coach for the Grand Valley High School baseball team. He has also served as a director for the Garfield 16 school board and the local park and recreation district.

I commend Chief Higuera for his years of service and dedication to the town of Parachute. It is people like him that make our communities safe and pleasant places to live and work. We owe him a debt of gratitude and wish him well in his retirement.

#### SUPPORT FOR THE VANADIUM TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP

#### HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Vanadium Technology Partnership, a program of great importance to both my constituents in Northwest Pennsylvania and the men and women serving in the United States military at home and overseas. The Vanadium Technology Partnership, or VTP, is a cooperative relationship between the vanadium microalloyed steel industry and the U.S. Army. The partnership is working to apply high-performance steels in military applications.

The military uses some quantity of vanadium in virtually every application where steel products are employed. As the chairman of the Congressional Steel Caucus, I recognize the crucial benefits that VTP offers to domestic steel industry as well as the U.S. armed services. I have worked extensively on behalf of VTP, including Bear Metallurgical Company, a key vanadium producer in my district and member of the partnership. Since VTP's inception in 2003, the steel industry and the military have employed vanadium in their daily operations to a much larger degree. Vanadium is currently being used to increase armor strength and reduce the weight of current combat vehicles, tactical vehicles, tactical bridges, material handling equipment, aircraft, watercraft and rail. Further, case studies looking at ways to expand vanadium's uses have been completed and are now in the process of deployment, including a vanadium steel rebar program, long span structures, trailer weight reduction, and vanadium spiral-welded pipe.

I would also like to offer my sincere gratitude to Dr. John Beatty with the Army Research Lab for his support and oversight of VTP since its inception. I was particularly pleased to learn that the Army has agreed to support the use of VTP funding to undertake critical health and safety research. This research will help ensure the safe and continued use of vanadium for industry and the military.

In closing, I am grateful to both my colleagues and the military for recognizing the crucial benefits of the Vanadium Technology Partnership. I have made the advancement of this technology a top priority and encourage its continuation. With the Army's commitment

to the VTP, the many uses of vanadium will continue to benefit our servicemen and women serving at home and overseas.

#### PRESIDENT HU JINTAO— PRESIDENT OF CHINA

#### HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, it is with great importance we have the opportunity to discuss Chinese President Hu Jintao's upcoming visit to Washington this April. During his visit, a number of issues will be discussed with President Bush, especially the issue of Taiwan.

We welcome President Hu Jintao and we hope his visit will help reduce mounting tensions in the Taiwan Strait.

As President Hu Jintao visits Washington, we urge the administration and the international community to help China accept the universal values of democracy, freedom and human rights and to renounce the use of force to resolve the Taiwan issue.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome President Hu Jintao to the United States and hope that he has productive meetings with the administration on a wide range of issues, especially the issue of Taiwan.

#### THE ELLA J. GILMORE STREET DESIGNATION

#### HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Congressional District Three, the Central Florida community, and the City of Apopka, it is my sincere pleasure to congratulate Ella J. Gilmore for this historic street name designation.

Your numerous noteworthy accomplishments and leadership in the Central Florida community includes work in the early 1970's in obtaining street paving and lighting for West 14th Street residents. You coordinated and provided leadership for the Orange County's South Apopka Targeted Initiative Pilot Project in 1991, which included community improvement projects, street lighting and paving, public facilities and youth programs in the South Apopka community.

It has often been said, "To whom much is given, much is required." This statement is exhibited by the work you have done and continues to be done in your position as Deputy Director of the Orange County Health and Family Services Department.

Continue to let your light shine as God directs your path in your mission to impact this and other Central Florida communities. Your unending involvement helps to improve the quality of many, many individual lives. Your community involvement will never go unnoticed.

Again, I say "Congratulations." It is an honor to say you are truly a "Phenomenal Woman."

#### TRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY LEADER PAULA WHITNEY

#### HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a great civic and community leader, Paula Whitney, upon her retirement as President of the Mill Basin Civic Association. Paula Whitney is a lifetime resident of the Mill Basin community and can trace her roots back to one of the first families to establish a residence in the area. She has a deep love for this close knit Brooklyn community and has dedicated a large part of her time and energy to ensuring the opportunities provided to her and her family over the years are preserved and fortified for future community residents.

Paula Whitney joined the Mill Basin Civic Association in 1979 and held several offices before being elected president in 1989. As president, Paula Whitney has spearheaded many campaigns to improve the Mill Basin community and keep it family friendly. She has brought many problems that otherwise might be swept under a rug into the light of day and had an uncanny ability to demand the proper amount of attention and respect from elected officials, our local police precinct and our local schools. Thanks in large part to Paula Whitney's persistence and hard work, no issue raised at her meetings ever went unanswered.

Paula Whitney taught civic responsibility by example, and her two children, Michael Francis and Jeanne Marie, learned it well. Jeanne serves on the civics' Board of Directors. Paula is married to Allan Whitney, a civic leader in his own right, who serves as the Third Vice President.

Paula's dedication to our community runs deeper than devoting herself to just one organization. She has represented her Mill Basin community at School Board meetings, served as a former Board Member of the Mill Bergen Chemical People Task Force, as a member of the Flatlands Volunteer Ambulance Corps, and as a member of Community Board 18, where she is chairperson of the Libraries Committee.

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I congratulate Paula Whitney upon the completion of her service as president of the Mill Basin Civic Association and thank her for her many years of hard work on behalf of my constituents and the City of New York.

#### TRIBUTE TO DIANNE REEVES

#### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the extraordinary accomplishments of a remarkable woman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize Dianne Reeves for her preeminent artistic achievement and her excellence in numerous creative endeavors.

Dianne Reeves has used her talent, skill and energy to create an inimitable musical and artistic presence for which she has received international acclaim. She came to our

community from Detroit, Michigan where she and her sister Sharon were raised by their grandmother. Dianne inherited a love of music from her parents and as a child, took piano lessons and sang at every opportunity. While singing with the George Washington High School big band, she was spotted by jazz trumpeter Clark Terry at the National Association of Jazz Educators Conference in Chicago where the band took first place in the 1974 jazz festival. She studied music at the University of Denver before moving to Los Angeles in 1976. Dianne experimented with various musical genres including Latin American music and toured with Eduardo Del Barrio's group "Caldera." She sang with the Billie Child's "Night Flights" jazz band and later toured with both Sergio Mendez and Harry Belafonte as his lead singer.

In 1987, Reeves was the first vocalist signed to the reactivated Blue Note/EMI label. Reeves has recorded with Daniel Barenboim and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, with Sir Simon Rattle and the Berlin Philharmonic and she has also recorded and performed extensively with Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra. Over the course of numerous recordings and hundreds of live performances, Dianne Reeves has burnished a reputation as a versatile and vivacious singer who has been compared to such masters of jazz as Ella Fitzgerald, Dinah Washington, Carmen McRae and Sarah Vaughn.

Dianne Reeves is in a class by herself. She won her fourth Best Jazz Vocal Grammy Award for the soundtrack to the critically acclaimed *Good Night, And Good Luck*, which chronicles Edward R. Murrow's confrontation with Senator Joseph McCarthy. Dianne is the only artist to have three consecutive recordings win in the jazz vocal category—*A Little Moonlight*, *The Calling: A Tribute to Sarah Vaughn* and *In the Moment*. She is an Ella Fitzgerald Award recipient and was awarded the Denver Mayor's Award for Excellence in the Arts. She was the first Creative Chair for Jazz of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra and has performed throughout Europe and Asia. Reeves is the first internationally renowned jazz artist to perform in Qatar and recently, she was the featured performer at UNICEF's Annual Gala in New York City.

We are indeed fortunate to have an artist of such consummate reputation and international acclaim in our community. She has mastered a wide range of styles and interpretation, all of which reflect both a perceptive and unique artistic ability and skill. Her artistic sensibilities are set apart by a fidelity to the spirit of various compositions and renderings of notable artists; by an intimate expression of mood and emotion and a style of singular elegance, sophistication and grace.

We owe much to our artists as they have the unique ability to distill our cultural essence from our collective experience. Please join me in commending Dianne Reeves, a distinguished artist. Her gifts enhance our culture and her contributions have enriched the American Experience.

# PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN TARTAN

## HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Tartan and his career as a teacher, coach, counselor, administrator. He is recognized today at the formal dedication of John Tartan Elementary School, which is named in his honor.

John was born November 6, 1924, in Ruth, Nevada. His parents were immigrants from Yugoslavia. In 1925, the family moved to McGill, Nevada, where John attended McGill Grade School and later White Pine High School in Ely. John graduated in 1943, and he enlisted in the Army-Air Corps. After the war, John won a spot on the "Ogden Reds" baseball team, a farm team for the Cincinnati Reds. There he earned the nickname "Buck" because he could run like a buck deer. That experience helped secure a baseball scholarship to Utah State University, where he earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in 1952.

John was hired by White Pine High School to teach, before he was recalled into the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. John coached and played for the Walker AFB in Roswell, New Mexico. He deployed to Mendel, England. He was discharged from the armed services in July 1953.

One month later, he accepted a position at Basic High School in Henderson, teaching general science and biology. He also became head baseball coach and assistant football coach. Under John's direction, Basic won two State Championships in baseball. Basic won the Tri-State championship and then competed in the C.I.F. tournament in Southern California. This was a first for a Nevada school. In 1955 John was named the "Helms Athletic Coach of the Year." John also introduced the slogan "Home of the Basic Wolves" on the school scoreboard. In addition to the scoreboard, John was the first coach to dress in team uniform, along with the bat-boy. This started a precedent at all the high schools in the Las Vegas valley.

In 1957, John left Basic to pursue a Master's Degree at Arizona State University. He returned to Las Vegas and Rancho High School. John led the Rancho Baseball Teams to Three State Championships in a row.

John moved out of the classroom and into administration. As a counselor at Rancho, John made it a point to help every student secure a scholarship. He handled all the senior class for twelve years. At Rancho High School, John served as Head of Counselors, and eventually as Assistant Principal.

In 1976, John transferred to Valley High School as Assistant Principal and in 1978, he requested to be transferred to Las Vegas High School, because it was so similar to his own Alma Mater. He retired from Las Vegas High School in 1980.

John is married to Judy Breeding Tartan for forty-two years. He has three children, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to John Tartan on the floor of the House today. I thank him for his service.

# IN HONOR OF TOM DUFFY

## HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Tom Duffy, a tireless advocate for children in the State of Delaware. Since March of 2000, Tom has served as a court appointed special advocate in Delaware's Family Court. He has represented over 20 children from numerous families and works diligently to protect their best interests.

Tom goes above and beyond the call of duty by paying close attention to all aspects of a child's life, monitoring everything from safety to education. His top priorities are always happiness and safety for the child.

In a legal system often overwhelming to the children it serves, Tom is able to explain complicated situations in a gentle manner. His dedication and skill has eased the fears of many children over his years of service.

Tom has been recognized locally as a finalist for the Delaware Jefferson Award, an honor awarded annually by the American Institute of Public Service commending outstanding public service leaders within the community. He is one of five very admirable nominees, all making exceptional contributions to the State of Delaware. No matter who is chosen as the recipient of this award, they are each deserving candidates who demonstrate that one person can truly make a monumental difference.

I congratulate and thank Tom Duffy for all of his contributions to the State of Delaware. Many families are grateful and I am pleased to be able to vocalize their appreciation. He is an exemplary citizen and a proud American. Thank you, Tom, for all you have done and continue to do for the families of our State.

# RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF VICE ADMIRAL JOHN H. "JACK" FETTERMAN, JR., UNITED STATES NAVY, RETIRED

## HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness and honor that I rise today to recognize a true patriot, Vice Admiral Jack Fetterman, United States Navy, retired. Admiral Fetterman left us Friday night, March 24th. He was 73 years old. Vicki and I were saddened to learn of his passing and our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Nancy Glenn Austin and their two sons, John and Kevin.

The Pensacola News Journal called him "a tireless civic leader who dreamed big, never stopped working for Pensacola and always was thinking of how to make it a better place to live" and I would add that few people have shown the perseverance, dedication and commitment to our community that he has shown.

Admiral Fetterman was born in Ashland, Pennsylvania on 4 August 1932. He began college at Susquehanna University, graduating from Albright College in 1954. He was commissioned an Ensign in the United States Navy in 1955 and was designated a naval aviator in 1956.

Vice Admiral Fetterman's first operational tour was with Attack Squadron 105 at Cecil Field, Florida. Flying A-1H Skyraiders from the deck of the aircraft carrier USS *Essex* (CVA-9) in the Sixth and Seventh Fleets, he participated in both the Lebanon and Formosa crises in 1958. In October 1959, he reported to Fleet Airborne Electronics Training Unit Atlantic and served as Light Attack Nuclear Weapons Training Instructor.

Following this tour, he reported to Attack Squadron 44 for A-4 Skyhawk replacement pilot training prior to joining the staff of the Commander Attack Carrier Air Wing 8 aboard the aircraft carrier USS *Forestall* (CVA-59). After tours at the Naval War College and Attack Squadron 44, Vice Admiral Fetterman reported to Attack Squadron 81 aboard the aircraft carrier *Shangri-La* (CV-38) where he served as maintenance officer during two Mediterranean deployments. A tour in Attack Squadron 174, where he served as Operations Officer, was followed by orders to Attack Squadron 87 as executive officer.

In March 1972, while deployed in the Mediterranean aboard the aircraft carrier USS *Franklin D. Roosevelt* (CVA-4), Vice Admiral Fetterman assumed command of Attack Squadron EIGHTY-SEVEN's "Golden Warriors." During this command tour, he was selected as team leader of a joint U.S. Navy and Air Force air-to-ground weapons team, which represented the United States in NATO competition in Greece. In March 1973, Vice Admiral Fetterman reported to the Office of Legislative Affairs, Washington, D.C., where he served for two years as assistant director for the Navy Senate Liaison Office. In July 1975, he assumed command of Carrier Air Wing EIGHT aboard the aircraft carrier USS *Nimitz* (CVN-68) and made deployments to the Caribbean, North Atlantic and Mediterranean.

In January 1977, Vice Admiral Fetterman assumed command of the command ship USS *La Salle* (AGF03), flagship of Commander, Middle East Forces. In March 1978, he reported to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations where he served as Special Projects Manager of the Royal Saudi Naval Forces Expansion Program. In February 1979, Vice Admiral Fetterman assumed command of U.S. Naval Base, Naval Station, and Naval Air Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. He was selected for Rear Admiral in February 1981, and, in July, assumed duties as the Commander of Tactical Wings, Atlantic. In July 1983, he reported as Commander, Training Command, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. From May to December 1985, he served on the staff of Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command and U.S. Atlantic Fleet as Deputy Chief of Staff for Readiness and Resources. In December 1985, he assumed his duties as Naval Inspector General. On 1 September 1987, he was promoted to the rank of Vice Admiral and in August assumed the duties as Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. On 1 February 1991, he assumed the duties as Chief of Naval Education and Training. Vice Admiral Fetterman retired from active duty on 1 March 1993.

His personal awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (five awards), the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal, and the Meritorious Unit commendation in addition to various campaign and service awards. During his naval career, Vice Admiral Fetterman accumulated

7,000 hours of flight time in 20 different aircraft and recorded 960 carrier landings.

In November 1993, Vice Admiral Fetterman assumed his most recent position as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation. He served as Chairman of the Mayor's Community Core Values Board; the Board of Directors, EAA; Past Chairman of the Pensacola Area Chamber of Commerce and Vice Chairman of Chamber Military Affairs; past Chairman of the USS Mitscher, USS *Bonhomme Richard* and USS *Iwo Jima* Commissioning Committees.

While his Navy career was long and distinguished, Admiral Fetterman's post-Navy accomplishments and contributions to Northwest Florida were just as significant. He had the exceptional vision to look at the city of Pensacola and not see what it was, or what it is, rather, he saw what it could be.

Mr. Speaker, Admiral Fetterman was a man of unquestionable character, unwavering resolve and unmatched determination. He represented everything that is great about Pensacola, our Nation and the United States Navy. His presence will be deeply missed, but his example will always be with us.

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#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF ROBERT JONES

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#### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Attorney Robert E. Jones, who passed away on January 28 of this year, at the age of 93.

Robert was a resident of Las Vegas for 39 years and a resident of Salt Lake City the last 22 years of his life. While living in Las Vegas, from 1947 to 1951, he served as the Clark County District Attorney. He also was the general counsel for the Clark County Housing Authority for 37 years, held a similar post at the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority for 14 years and was the first attorney for the Colorado River Commission. He became the Convention Authority's first attorney in 1958 when the agency was known as the Clark County Fair and Recreation Board. There, Robert was credited with putting together 6 bond questions, 4 of which passed, that helped shape the powerful Convention Authority during its formative years.

Before moving to Las Vegas Robert served as an FBI Special Agent in Savannah, Georgia, and Birmingham, Alabama, from 1940 to 1945. Robert is the father of U.S. District Judge Robert E. Jones, and the Clark County Housing Authority's Jones Gardens was opened and named in his son's honor in 1985.

Mr. Speaker, It is an honor to recognize and pay tribute to Robert Jones today, on the floor of the House. He was a great American and he will be remembered as a philosophical man whose kindness and involvement in the community stands as an example to all of us.

#### IN HONOR OF VINCENZA CARRIERI-RUSSO

#### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Vincenza Carrieri-Russo, for her tireless dedication to eradicate our community of illiteracy. Vincenza has accomplished amazing things in a very short amount of time. As a high school senior, she co-founded Success Won't Wait, a statewide effort to improve literacy.

The program places children's books in everyday places such as doctor's offices, dance studios, auto repair shops, and hair salons. The idea is that when equipped with the proper books, these common waiting areas transform into environments where parents and children can share in the enjoyment of reading.

Since its inception, Success Won't Wait has continued to expand its mission with new projects. While continuing to place children's books in offices at no charge, the organization plans to expand existing libraries and their children's book collections as well as creating more "Independent Libraries" like the recent installation of over 1,000 books at the Bayard House in Wilmington.

Vincenza has been recognized locally as a finalist for the Delaware Jefferson Award, an honor awarded annually by the American Institute of Public Service commending outstanding public service leaders within the community. She is one of five very admirable nominees, all making exceptional contributions to the State of Delaware. No matter who is chosen as the recipient of this award, they are each deserving candidates who demonstrate that one person can truly make a monumental difference.

I congratulate and thank Vincenza Carrieri-Russo for all she has contributed to the State of Delaware. Thousands of children are grateful and I am pleased to vocalize their appreciation. She is an exemplary citizen and a proud American. Thank you, Vincenza, for all you have done and continue to do for the children of our State.

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#### IN HONOR OF INTERFAITH OLDER ADULT PROGRAMS

#### HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Interfaith Older Adult Programs as they celebrate their 30th anniversary. Over the past three decades, Interfaith Older Adult Programs has contributed greatly to enriching the lives of older adults and their caregivers in Wisconsin's Fourth Congressional District, advocating for the needs of senior citizens while also providing them with concrete ways to participate in and enhance their communities.

Interfaith Older Adult Programs grew out of an effort by several faith congregations to reach out to isolated older adults on Milwaukee's east side. From that humble beginning

in 1973, Interfaith Older Adult Programs has grown to a comprehensive countywide program. With the mission of linking older adults to a caring community, Interfaith Older Adult Programs has worked to find innovative and concrete ways to engage local residents in the work of caring for older adults, while ensuring that they have meaningful opportunities to continue contributing to their communities.

Interfaith Older Adult Programs provide the crucial support needed to enable older adults to continue living in their homes, while building a safety network that assists them with specific challenges. The Neighborhood Outreach Program, for example, provides transportation to medical appointments and grocery shopping as well as companionship to frail and isolated elders. Other programs match seniors with neighborhood volunteers who provide help with snow removal and other outside chores or provide a daily telephone check-in.

Interfaith has also been a primary conduit for enabling senior citizens to serve their communities. Key programs link seniors to volunteer opportunities with local nonprofit organizations throughout Milwaukee County, and connect them with foster children who need tutoring, mentoring, nurturing and counseling. Participating in these programs ensures the wisdom and expertise of our older adults is not lost, providing support for the community while also energizing older volunteers.

I am delighted to recognize Interfaith Older Adult Programs for their efforts on behalf of the older adults in the Fourth Congressional District. I thank them for their compassion, their vision, and their commitment to serving our elders, and I wish them another 30 years of success.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO TONI AND VICTOR CHALTIEL

#### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Toni and Victor Chaltiel, who will be recognized this Sunday at the Milton I. Schwartz Hebrew Academy Annual Gala in Las Vegas, by receiving the First Dr. Miriam & Sheldon G. Adelson In Pursuit of Excellence Award.

Longtime philanthropists and community volunteers, Toni and Victor Chaltiel are enormously active in Nevada's education, art and community outreach programs.

Founder, chairman and CEO of Health Dad Insights, Inc., Mr. Chaltiel has 35 years of experience as an executive in the health care industry including 10 years as chairman and CEO of NASDAQ and NYSE publicly listed companies. He also currently serves as founder and chairman of RedHills Ventures LLC, a venture capital group focusing in claims integrity and market-driven health care. Born in Tunis, Tunisia, Mr. Chaltiel is a graduate of the Ecole Supérieure Des Sciences Economiques et Commerciales in Paris, France, and the Harvard Business School and actively supports the United Way, AIPAC, and ADL; he also serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Nevada Ballet Theatre and as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Milton I. Schwartz Hebrew Academy.

Mrs. Chaltiel is the cofounder and manager of RedHills Ventures LLC and was president of Total Insurance and Planning Corporation in Torrance, CA. A native of Dublin, Ireland, Mrs. Chaltiel graduated from Dublin City University and the Institute of Personnel Management in Dublin. She is active in several community and not-for-profit organizations, including the United Way, and serves on the Board of Directors of both the Nevada Ballet Theatre and the Jewish Community Center of Southern Nevada. The Chaltiels have three children, Oscar, Maxime, and Sarah, all of whom attend the Milton I. Schwartz Hebrew Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Toni and Victor Chaltiel. I commend them for their services to Southern Nevada.

#### IN HONOR OF BRIAN HARTMAN

#### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Brian Hartman, a tireless advocate for people with disabilities in the State of Delaware.

Brian has devoted himself, both professionally and personally, to improving every facet of life for disabled individuals. In addition to his work as project director for the Disabilities Law Program, Brian is also committed to other volunteer programs working with families and children in difficult situations.

Brian is deeply involved in each of his cases, one mother who was a client of Brian's recalls that, "from the date of [the] hearing forward . . . we could call Brian day or evening and he would respond." The Disabilities Law Program of Delaware is lucky to have such a dedicated individual serving as its director.

Brian has been recognized locally as a finalist for the Delaware Jefferson Award, an honor awarded annually by the American Institute of Public Service commending outstanding public service leaders within the community. He is one of five very admirable nominees, all making exceptional contributions to the State of Delaware. No matter who is chosen as the recipient of this award, they are each deserving candidates who demonstrate that one person can truly make a monumental difference.

I congratulate and thank Brian Hartman for all he has contributed to the State of Delaware. Many disabled Delawareans and their families are grateful and I am pleased to be able to vocalize their appreciation. He is an exemplary citizen and a proud American. Thank you, Brian, for all you have contributed to the families of our State.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE PEACE CORPS' 45TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the establishment of the Peace Corps.

On the heels of his historic Inaugural Address, President Kennedy signed an Executive

Order on March 1, 1961 to establish the Peace Corps in order to promote world peace and friendship.

Over the past 45 years, the Peace Corps has deployed over 182,000 volunteers to more than 138 nations to work on various important issues. At the beginning of the 21st century, the Peace Corps' mission remains as relevant as ever with 7,810 volunteers working in 75 countries to address some of the globe's most pressing challenges, such as the HIV/AIDS pandemic. In addition, the Peace Corps has swiftly responded to recent natural disasters.

I recently visited East Timor—the world's newest democracy and one of the poorest nations in Asia—as part of my work on the House Democracy Assistance Commission. While we were there, we met several Peace Corps volunteers and learned about the wonderful work they were doing to improve the lives of the people of that new nation. I could not have been more impressed with their dedication, compassion, and commitment to service.

I would like to recognize past and present Peace Corps volunteers who have made invaluable contributions in all corners of the globe over the past 45 years. I am proud to say that 12 of my constituents are currently serving overseas as Peace Corps volunteers. They are: Khaled Alquaddoomi, Wendy Chien, Jennifer Chow, Nicole Gabriel, Kelly Golden, Karen Hamilton, Ibrahim Kalla, Alice Luck, Keenton Luong, Kristina Ortiz, Lassana Toure, and Katherine Wang. Let us commend these dedicated young Americans—and all of those who have served—for their efforts in such a noble task, defined by President Kennedy as "bringing to man that decent way of life which is the foundation of freedom and a condition of peace."

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO REVEREND ROBERT MILLER

#### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rev. Robert Miller. Reverend Miller, a 4-year resident of Las Vegas, is a Vietnam veteran who works tirelessly to serve homeless veterans with a unique need, that need being that they need someone to give them a proper burial.

Reverend Miller's interest in helping homeless veterans started about 23 years ago, when he was living in Detroit. He was shopping at a produce market when a homeless man asked him for 50 cents. When he gave the man some money he looked strangely familiar. The two realized that they had served together in Vietnam. Reverend Miller bought the man breakfast and quickly became involved with feeding homeless veterans through various organizations in Michigan. When he moved to Las Vegas he continued this work.

About 2 years ago Reverend Miller started volunteering his time to conduct services for homeless and indigent veterans who are buried at the Southern Nevada Memorial Veterans Cemetery. He believes that all homeless veterans deserve to be laid to rest with respect and with the same honors that other veterans receive. About 1,650 veterans a year

are buried at the cemetery. Most of the time, the service includes grieving families mourning their loss. But each year, about 120 homeless veterans are also buried there, and rarely does a family member attend. Reverend Miller, the chaplain for the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 17, conducts services, and an honor guard is provided by the appropriate service branch.

At the age of 57, Reverend Miller is not the only one to provide this greatly needed final farewell. But when he started handling the services 2 years ago, he was one of the most frequent unpaid volunteers conducting services. He drives 60 miles round trip from his home to the cemetery and often performs services for more than one veteran a day. On January 31st, he held services for six homeless veterans, only one of which had any family there to attend.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor Rev. Robert Miller on the floor of the House, today. He stands as an example to all of us by helping those who cannot help themselves. I commend him for his selfless acts of service.

IN HONOR OF J. RANDALL WARD JR.

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to J. Randall Ward Jr., for his years of service to the United Cerebral Palsy of Delaware (UCP) organization.

Randall has dedicated over 40 years of service to the United Cerebral Palsy of Delaware organization. Before Randall's efforts, the UCP's summer camp used an inaccessible swimming pool for more than 100 children and all camp activities were held in outdoor tents with portable bathrooms as the only restroom facility. Camp Manito now boasts a new campus, with a larger more handicapped accessible swimming pool. The tents have been replaced with a beautiful building equipped with many amenities, including air-conditioning and accommodations for 4 full-time staff members.

Randall has been recognized locally as a finalist for the Delaware Jefferson Award, an honor awarded annually by the American Institute of Public Service commending outstanding public service leaders within the community. He is one of 5 very admirable nominees, all making exceptional contributions to the State of Delaware. No matter who is chosen as the recipient of this award, they are each deserving candidates who demonstrate that one person can truly make a monumental difference.

I congratulate and thank Randall Ward for all he has contributed to the State of Delaware. Many children are grateful and I am pleased to be able to vocalize their appreciation. He is an exemplary citizen and a proud American. Thank you, Randall, for all you have done and continue to do for our State and our country.

TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF  
GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 185th anniversary of Greece's declaration of independence from the Ottoman Empire. Against incredibly difficult odds, the Greeks defeated one of the most powerful empires in history to gain their independence.

Following 400 years of Ottoman rule, in March 1821 Bishop Germanos of Patras raised the traditional Greek flag at the monastery of Agia Lavras, inciting his countrymen to rise against the Ottoman army. The bishop timed this act of revolution to coincide with the Greek Orthodox holiday celebrating the archangel Gabriel's announcement that the Virgin Mary was pregnant with the divine child. Bishop Germanos's message to his people was clear: A new spirit was about to be born in Greece. The following year, the Treaty of Constantinople established full independence for Greece.

Greek Independence Day is an appropriate time to reflect upon the strong ties between Greece and the United States and the strong commitment to democracy shared by both nations. The Greeks of 1821 fought for independence from the Ottoman Empire while drawing inspiration from the ideals and institutions of the fledgling United States. During their war of independence, the Greeks also received support from many Americans, including Presidents James Madison and James Monroe and Representatives Daniel Webster and Henry Clay, each of whom gave memorable speeches in Congress in support of the Greek revolutionaries. Just as our defeat of the British army was remarkable, so too was the Greek triumph over the Ottoman Army, a momentous achievement in world history.

New York City is home to the largest Hellenic population outside Greece and Cyprus. Western Queens, which I have the honor of representing, is often called Little Athens because of the large Hellenic population in that neighborhood.

New Yorkers celebrate Greek Independence Day with a parade on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, along with many cultural events and private gatherings. These events, hosted by the Federation of Hellenic Societies and other Hellenic and Philhellenic organizations and friends, remind us of the Hellenic-American community's many contributions to our Nation's history and culture.

On April 2, the president of the Federation of Hellenic Societies, Nikos Diamontidis, along with the organization's officers and board members, will join Parade Committee Chairman Dinos Rallis and Secretary Petros Galatoulas in reminding New Yorkers of the glory of Greece and the hope of freedom and human rights for all. The grand marshals of this year's parade are Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Andrew Athens, Paul Stapholopoulos, and John Rangos.

Relations between the United States and Greece remain strong with a shared commitment to ensuring stability in southeastern Europe. I hope permanent solutions can be found for ending the division of Cyprus and finding a mutually agreeable name for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Greece continues to be the home of wonderful artistic achievements including the annual Eurovision song contest, which this year will be held in Athens. I also am pleased to note that Greece hopes to open its Acropolis Museum by the end of next year. This museum will give visitors the opportunity to experience and learn about the Acropolis in a new and exciting way. I hope that the Elgin Marbles, which have been on view in the British Museum, will soon be returned to their home.

As a founder and cochair of the Hellenic Caucus in Congress, I ask the Nation to join me in celebrating Greece's independence. Additionally, it is my sincere pleasure to pay tribute to New York's Hellenic-American community for its many contributions to our city and Nation.

Zeto E Eleftheria. Long Live Freedom.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO REV.  
PATRICIA SPEARMAN

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rev. Patricia Spearman for an exemplary life dedicated to God and community.

Patricia was born in Indianapolis, and spent much of her childhood traveling throughout the Midwest and South with her evangelist mother. They spent a week or so at a time at different churches and between her eighth grade year and second semester of her junior year she attended over 200 schools. Traveling so much fostered in her a curiosity of people and the roads they travel and gave her a healthy respect for human diversity. After 16 years, Patricia was tired of traveling and decided to finish high school in Kansas City, MO. She supported herself with after-school jobs and later, took her first pastorate in a small Kansas City church.

After graduation, Patricia attended college in Dallas on a band scholarship for 1 year, and then transferred to Norfolk State University in Virginia on an academic scholarship. She majored in political science, planning on a career as a minister and attorney. Then, during her freshman year, Patricia enrolled in Reserve Officers Training Corps to fulfill a physical education requirement. She did so well, that during her sophomore year she committed to serving 2 years' active duty in the Army after college, followed by 4 more years in the Army Reserves. She served with the military police in South Korea, advancing through the ranks until leaving active duty in 1983 as a lieutenant colonel. Since then, as a reservist, Patricia has been recalled to active duty several times, and last fall completed a 30-month deployment working in counterterrorism at the Pentagon.

From the days of that first posting in South Korea, Patricia continued working in ministry, sometimes unofficially, often under the auspices of overworked but grateful chaplains. Now she brings to Las Vegas skills learned during a lifetime of serving churches, working in campus ministry at the University of Louisville in Kentucky and serving as school board president in Texas. Last November, Rev. Patricia Spearman was named pastor of the Las Vegas's Covenant United Methodist Fellowship. While she has traveled extensively in her

lifetime, she arrives in Las Vegas with the conviction that this is exactly where she's supposed to be. At the age of 50 she uses her experience to segue seamlessly from a story about everyday life into a Bible story. And in a time when many people segregate to worship Patricia holds firm to the idea that diversity is also one of God's creations and it must be celebrated. Anyone and everyone is welcome to attend her sermons and the average crowd that gathers to hear her words attests to Patricia's love of diversity.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Rev. Patricia Spearman on the floor of the House today.

IN HONOR OF JOHN LAROCK

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to John Larock, whose work has been invaluable in forming and maintaining Miracle Workerz, a nationally recognized science and engineering mentoring program focusing on an international robotics competition.

In 1993, John began a DuPont sponsored Explorer Post which grew in 2000, to become a team. This team is affiliated with the international robotics competition, FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). Each year, John recruits adult volunteers who reach out in the community and inspire young students to pursue the fields of science, technology and engineering. His success is a direct result of making learning fun.

John is also known for being a leader who encourages others to participate in community service. His positive outlook, tremendous vision, and unlimited energy create an environment where people want to contribute to the achievement of others.

John has been recognized locally as a finalist for the Delaware Jefferson Award, an honor awarded annually by the American Institute of Public Service commending outstanding public service leaders within the community. He is one of five very admirable nominees, all making exceptional contributions to the State of Delaware. No matter who is chosen as the recipient of this award, they are each deserving candidates who demonstrate that one person can truly make a monumental difference.

I congratulate and thank John Larock for all he has contributed to the State of Delaware. Hundreds of young people are grateful and I am pleased to be able to vocalize their appreciation. He is an exemplary citizen and a proud American. Thank you, John, for all you have done and continue to do for the children of our State.

IRAN: THREATS, CHALLENGES  
AND PROSPECTS FOR CHANGE

**HON. WM. LACY CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday February 15, 2006, a briefing was conducted

in the Canon Caucus room of the U.S. House of Representatives. Entitled: Iran: Threats, Challenges and Prospects For Change, the briefing was sponsored by bipartisan group of Members of Congress. During this event speakers assessed the current situation in Iran, the Iranian nuclear threat and the status of the Iranian opposition group, the MEK. I would like to take this opportunity to share with all of my colleagues my opening statement and some of the highlights from the remarks of the panelists:

I would like to begin by thanking all of the Iranian Americans who have traveled to Capitol Hill today to hear the views of our expert panelists. I also want to thank my fellow members of Congress who are here with us in support of this event. Let me start by recognizing TOM TANCREDO of Colorado, thank you for being here, and also Congressman BOOZMAN of Arkansas. Can we give them both a hand for their participation [applause]. I also want to thank our distinguished panelists for taking the time to share their insights and understanding of current events in Iran. It is critically important that all Americans understand the true nature of the grave threat posed by the radical extremists, anti American regime in Tehran. We're facing a very dangerous crisis with Iran today. The Iranian government is sponsoring terrorism, developing nuclear weapons, meddling in the future of Iraq and violating the fundamental human rights of their own people. The world community cannot afford to allow the Iranian mullahs to continue to be a regional threat or to grow into a nuclear threat. For too many years we have done nothing to help the Iranian people—inside and outside of Iran—in their struggle for democracy. For too many years we have tolerated terrorism and violence from Iranian extremists. It is time to take action. If we fail to take action against the mullahs meddling in Iraq we risk the future of the Iraqi people and we may find that the Iranian regime and not the Iraqi people were the real winners of the Iraq war.

U.S. policies toward Iran have failed to achieve our goals. While many advocate more dialogue with Tehran our time is running short. We must seize the opportunity to aid the people of Iran and it is time to give support to the Iranian people who have longed for democracy for more than a quarter of a century. I am troubled by the strategy of our government and the insistence that the Iranian government and the Iranian opposition, the MEK are equal threats to peace and freedom. There is no logic in this reasoning and it is undermining our foreign policies. The U.S. must exercise a genuine commitment to helping the Iranian people overcome the oppressive regime that despises democratic principles and denies fundamental human rights.

I commend all who are working today for the sake of human rights, peace and democracy in the Middle East. I share your vision of a free and peaceful Iranian nation.

The first panelist to address the briefing was Professor Raymond Tanter the former member of the National Security Agency and the President of Iran Policy Committee. His statement began:

Please allow me to cut to the chase and begin with my conclusions: Coercive diplomacy, military action, and regime change for Iran are three options for the international community. Rather than sliding into military action as coercive diplomacy also fails, it is time to consider regime change for Iran. Because the only possibility to carry out regime change is via the groups feared by the regime in Tehran, the United

States should remove their terrorist designation. Coercive diplomacy combines threat of force with promise of diplomacy. For several years, the European Union pursued a policy of promise without threat, ostensibly in order to bolster the fortunes of moderates like former President Mohammad Khatami relative to the likes of the Supreme Leader and President of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Rather than reinforcing the moderates, however, there has been a consolidation of power under the Supreme Leader and his selected President Ahmadinejad. Professor Tanter went on to say: President Bush should issue a Finding or Presidential Directive authorizing all appropriate measures to effect regime change in Iran

The next panelist to address the conference was Ms. Lynn Derbyshire who is a representative of victims of terrorism in Beirut She recently testified in the U.S. Congress against the Mullah's regime support of terrorism. She started her remarks with the story of her brother who was killed in Beirut by the Iranian regime. Ms. Derbyshire then explained that placing the Iranian Resistance in the terrorist list was a present to the clerical regime in Iran. She said: "Ahmadinejad, not Iranian Resistance, is a terrorist." She continued on saying that "Iranian and American people basically want the same thing. They all want to put a stop on terrorism."

Lt. General Tom McInerney (USAF, ret.), former Assistant Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and an IPC Co-Chair, also addressed the briefing. He examined the military option toward Iran: and said:

The United States has the ability to target the known nuclear sites of Iran and delay its nuclear weapons program. With such capability in hand and in the context of failing diplomacy, we should leave the military option on the table. General McInerney added: However, military alternatives have risks, which suggest that choosing the military option should be a last resort. Prior to taking military action, it is important to begin a regime change clock. McInerney concluded: Regime change begins when the Great Powers remove Iranian opposition groups from so-called terrorist lists. I favor removing of the Mujahedeen-e Khalq from such lists; empowering the Iranian people by recognizing their main opposition groups; building an Arab political coalition to support these opposition groups; and eroding the legitimacy of Tehran regime to point where it collapses in face of determined efforts of the Iranian people working through dissidents and exiles.

The next speaker to address the briefing was Mr. Bruce McCollm, President, Institute for Democratic Strategies, a non-profit organization committed to strengthening democratic processes abroad. In his remarks he asked:

Can we imagine one day saying that Iran is an island of democratic stability in a turbulent region? We can if we help the Iranian people stand up and demand a greater say in their government and in their own lives.

He continued:

Since the days of the Iranian Revolution, we in the West have viewed the Iranian people as victims of a repressive regime. Some thought the period of the Khatami Presidency could usher in much-needed reforms, a little more respect for basic human rights, and possibly the day when a democracy could be established and the Iranian people could take their rightful place in the world community. The election—I mean, selection—of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad as President should dispel this illusion once and for all.



He stated:

Now is the time when we should stop looking at Iranians as victims and use our considerable resources to empower this talented civilization so it can create the free, prosperous society their considerable talents are capable of.

McColm also said:

If we are serious about regime change in Iran, what can be done?

He talked about the bills passed in the Congress that are necessary first steps to send the proper signal to Tehran that there is a new day dawning and their day is ending. He explained:

Attempts by the United States and the European Union to placate the leadership of Iran by placing the MEK on the proscribed list of terrorist organizations should end. It is way past time to take back Iran's lone diplomatic victory over the past fifteen years. De-List the MEK and the NCRI now. It is the right thing to do.

He also said:

Before his recent execution, MEK activist, 30-year old Hojjat Zamani wrote Kofi Annan a letter to encourage the United Nations investigation of the status of the families of political prisoners in Iran. He was too aware that the Iranian regime has been adroit in blackmailing families of those involved in activities considered contrary to the regime. This practice continues to this day. The international community should create a fund in Zamani's name to subsidize the families of political prisoners so as to alleviate their financial suffering.

The last speaker was Mr. Nasser Rashidi who showed a picture of the Mojahedin member, Hojjat Zamani and announced his execution by the Iranian regime which took place on February 7th. He highly praised all the political prisoners and said that the people of Iran are determined to bring freedom and democracy back to their homeland no matter what price they have to pay. Mr. Rashidi said that the people of Iran have already sacrificed 120,000 of their best children who have been executed to bring freedom to their country and they will pay even more. He continued as saying:

It is a mistake to believe that only one individual in the ruling elite is aiming to wipe another country off the map. The colossal mistake is to name the enemy as the individual called Ahmadinejad and not the ideology. The rulers of Iran are representing an ideology that is called "Islamic Fundamentalism", or sometimes is called "Islamic Extremism." He said that many members of both chambers have expressed their opposition to the designation of MEK as an FTO. He thanked the many congressional advisors and staff present at the meeting for supporting the Iranian people and their resistance. He then pointed out the latest news conference held by Mrs. Maryam Rajavi in Auver-sur-Oise, France where she said:

If the West stops giving concessions to the mullahs, petro-dollars do not fill the mullahs' coffers, silence and inaction vis-a-vis the systematic human rights abuses and terrorist crimes are ended, and the terrorist list as well as other unjust restrictions on the Resistance are removed, change would be within reach.

At the conclusion of the three hour briefing reporters interviewed the panelists about the Iranian threat.

## PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE BOULDER DAM HOTEL ASSOCIATION

### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Boulder Dam Hotel Association for their work in preserving the Boulder Dam Hotel.

The Boulder Dam Hotel is an historic building constructed in 1933 located in Boulder City, Nevada. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and stands in the center of the nationally registered historic district of Boulder City. By 1934 the hotel was accommodating a steady clientele which included Hollywood celebrities, politicians, European aristocrats and Far Eastern royalty. The hotel gained a worldwide reputation, and as a result there were not enough rooms to accommodate all who wished to stay. In the summer of 1934 a southeast wing with 18 rooms was added, and in the fall of 1935 the hotel was expanded a final time with the addition of a dining room and 30 bedrooms. Since that time the only changes have been the addition of a sun room off the dining room, and an elevator and swimming pool in the early 1980's.

Throughout the 1930's and into the 1940's the Boulder Dam Hotel was maintained as southern Nevada's finest inn. As is often the case with historic structures, subsequent years were not as kind to the building and it went through a succession of owners. One of them was Senator Cliff McCorkle who attempted to restore it to its former glory. Though a significant amount of work was done, that effort was not successful and in later years it fell into disrepair and was largely unprofitable.

A number of Boulder City citizens became concerned that the community might lose this beautiful structure, so they formed a group called Friends of the Hotel and investigated the feasibility of taking the building into public ownership. On December 15, 1993, 60 years to the date after the first opening of the Hotel, a newly formed organization, the Boulder Dam Hotel Association, Inc., formally took possession of the hotel. The Association is comprised of the city of Boulder City, the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce, the Boulder City Arts Council, and the Boulder City Museum and Historical Association. It has a 12-member board composed of 2 members appointed by each of the owners and 4 additional members who were selected from the community at large by the initial 8 members.

Mr. Speaker, for more than a decade the Boulder Dam Hotel Association has worked to preserve and restore this beautiful and important part of southern Nevada's history. I am honored to recognize them on the floor of the House today.

## TRIBUTE TO WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

### HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House and to revise and extend my remarks.

This week we conclude the celebration of Women's History Month; a month during which we acknowledged and honored those women who struggled and fought for suffrage and equal rights. As we do so, I would like to bring special attention to an often over-looked message espoused by the early heroines of our country: a message of preborn women's rights.

Susan B. Anthony, a well-known pioneer of the women's movement, was a staunch defender of the rights of the unborn. She believed that abortion violated the rights of women and children, by exploiting women and by denying unborn children the most precious of rights—the right to life. Alice Paul, author of the Equal Rights amendment, agreed and said that, "Abortion is the ultimate exploitation of women."

As we reflect upon the life and achievements of the early suffragettes during Women's History Month, let us also recognize the need to protect and value all human life.

## TRIBUTE TO CHARLES W. BOWSER

### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a great Philadelphian, Charles W. Bowser.

A respected attorney, civil rights advocate and humanitarian, Mr. Bowser has made an indelible imprint on Philadelphia's civic and political landscape. Understanding that freedom is not free, for nearly 50 years Mr. Bowser has advanced the cause of freedom and justice. His path-clearing campaigns for mayor of Philadelphia in 1975 and 1979 launched a movement that ultimately helped to elect W. Wilson Goode, the city's first Black mayor.

A man of action, Mr. Bowser utilized his legal acumen and his journalistic skills to lead the fight for justice and inclusion but also to articulate the dreams and rights of the politically unempowered. Equally comfortable in a neighborhood community meeting, the board room of his legal firm or a mayor's cabinet meeting, Charles Bowser has had the same steady and strident voice raised against injustice.

In celebration of his 70th birthday he wrote, "My generation of African Americans was guided by the belief that we had to be united to oppose racial injustice. Racial injustice was our enemy and we knew that the great hope of freedom could only begin with the end of injustice. Our unity began in our churches, in our homes, in our schools and in our dreams. We believed that ensuring the great hope of freedom was our personal responsibility."

Throughout his career Mr. Bowser has led by example and we all have benefited from his leadership, intellect and integrity. Because he understood that freedom is not free, he has consistently demonstrated his willingness to contribute his share of the price of the hope of freedom, and we are indebted and it is for these reasons that I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to honor him.



PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHARLES  
"DOC" BROADUS

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles "Doc" Broadus for his contributions to the sport of boxing and to helping the youth of his community.

At the age of 86, Las Vegas resident Doc Broadus is still active as a boxing trainer, spending his days at the Las Vegas Boxing Center. Although he is driven by his love of boxing, Doc strives to use the sport as an avenue for keeping kids out of trouble. He heads Doc Broadus Sports & Entertainment, a non-profit organization, which aims to improve the quality of life for local children by giving them the opportunity to compete and perform.

One famous example of Doc's work is the 1968 Mexico City Olympic Gold Medalist, George Foreman. Doc met the young boxer in 1965 at a Job Corps center in Pleasanton, CA. George was headed to California State Prison for getting into a fight and Doc thought his punching ability could be better used in the ring. After effectively getting George out of his sentence by agreeing to work with him, Doc became a father figure of sorts.

What followed were 30 years of training and some of the greatest fights of the 20th century. George became a legend and helped to further unite the Nation, when he won gold in Mexico after he chose to fight instead of caving in to the demands of a small radical group. Doc was in George's corner in the 1974 Rumble in the Jungle versus Muhammad Ali, in Jamaica a year earlier for the upset of Joe Frazier and still present in 1994 at the age of 74, when George defeated Michael Moorer to become the oldest heavy-weight champion in the history of the sport.

Doc's goal is to have 12 kids win 12 gold medals. Although he may never reach this lofty goal, on the way there he will continue to have many successes of a greater value.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Charles "Doc" Broadus today. I commend him for a life of dedication to the sport of boxing and to serving the youth of Southern Nevada.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF  
JOHN GOODWIN FELDER

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, I am happy to congratulate Beth and Ted Felder of Beaufort, SC, on the birth of their new baby boy. John Goodwin Felder was born in Beaufort on March 29, 2006, at 9:20 a.m., weighing 6 pounds and 3 ounces. He has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future.

His father Ted Felder serves as deputy district director for the Lowcountry in the Office of Second Congressional District of South Carolina. He is extremely knowledgeable about the Lowcountry and works tirelessly to help citizens throughout South Carolina. Today, I am

pleased to congratulate the Felder family on John's birth.

SWEARING IN OF PORTIA SIMPSON-MILLER AS NEW PRIME MINISTER OF JAMAICA

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jamaicans on the commencement of a new era. This week, Ms. Portia Simpson-Miller will be sworn in as the new Prime Minister of the great nation of Jamaica as she leads the People's National Party.

Simpson-Miller has been a passionate, long-time voice for the oppressed. Her career in politics has spanned three and a half decades most recently as vice president of the PNP since 1978 and president of the PNP Women's Movement since 1983. Her previous assignments also include several Cabinet portfolios—serving as a Minister of Labour, Welfare and Sport and a Minister of Local Government, Community Development and Sport. By serving her people diligently, she has earned the right to succeed Mr. P.J. Patterson, the island's longest serving Prime Minister.

Simpson-Miller is part of a new generation of leaders representing the vanguard of women succeeding in politics throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Not only is her dedication to her people reflected in her experience and length of tenure serving in Jamaican politics, but also in the throngs of supporters who will rejoice in her inauguration. During her election, she was the people's candidate. Now she will become the people's Prime Minister—with Jamaicans both on the island and abroad, even in the great 15th Congressional District of New York hailing her victory.

Simpson-Miller is a Jamaican success story; an iconic figure who has become a metaphor for the hopes and aspirations of poor, underprivileged black people, particularly black women. She is a woman of faith, conviction and of the people—traits that will surely be needed to effectively address the problems of entrenched poverty and crime and enhance employment opportunities for youth.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Prime Minister Designate Simpson-Miller in assuming her new position this week and in holding steadfast to her proven commitment to Jamaicans.

[From the CaribNews, Mar. 14, 2006]

CARIB WOMAN—JAMAICA'S NEW PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE

Born on December 12, 1945 at Wood Hall, St. Catherine Age, Hon. Portia Simpson-Miller was educated at St. Martin's High School; Union Institute and University of Miami, Florida (BA Public Administration); Jamaica Institute of Management/University of California, Berkeley (certificate in Advanced Management); and completed Harvard (Executive Program for Leaders in Development at the John F. Kennedy School of Government).

Simpson-Miller was awarded an honorary doctorate by Union Institute and University for her 'enduring efforts to improve the quality of life for all Jamaican citizens regardless of race, class, color or creed'. She is

married to businessman, Errald Miller, a former telecoms executive with Cable & Wireless Jamaica; she enjoys reading, music, boxing and horseback riding.

Her career in politics has spanned three and a half decades; debuting as KSAC councilor in the early 1970s; then Member of Parliament for South West St. Andrew since 1976; vice president of the PNP since 1978; and president, PNP Women's Movement since 1983.

Simpson-Miller has consistently topped opinion polls as Jamaica's most beloved political personality for many years but has had to beat back detractors inside and outside her party who claim she lacks the requisite intellectual and social credits to lead the country.

Her career in government has included several Cabinet portfolios. As Minister of Labor, Welfare and Sport, she developed a new Overseas Recruitment Center, created the National Insurance Fund, established a chair in Labor Studies at the University of the West Indies, presided over long periods of harmonious relations between employers, workers and trade unions and established the National Council on the Aged. As Minister of Tourism and Sport and Minister of Local Government, Community Development and Sport, she has taken steps to establish a sports medicine and treatment facility for injured athletes. She also has had responsibility for the Women's portfolio.

Hon. Portia Simpson-Miller has undertaken international assignments on local government for the Organization of American States (OAS) and is chair of the Caribbean Forum of Ministers Responsible for Decentralization, Local Government, Community Development and Citizen Participation as well as board member of the Commonwealth Local Government Forum.

Her campaign focused on themes of empowerment for the marginalized, especially the poor, and uniting all classes to tackle deep-rooted problems of crime and economic underdevelopment.

CONGRATULATING CHICAGO OLYMPIC SPEED SKATER SHANI DAVIS FOR HIS HISTORIC PERFORMANCE AT THE 2006 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute to Chicago Olympic speed skater Shani Davis for his triumphant performance at the 2006 Winter Olympics in Torino, Italy. Shani Davis has achieved excellence at the world's highest level and in doing so he has blazed a new trail in Olympic and speed skating history.

The Olympic Games are a celebration of the sporting spirit that unites all athletes of the world. No performance at the 2006 Winter Olympics was more demonstrative of this spirit than that of Chicago's Shani Davis. On February 18, 2006 he became the first African-American to win an individual gold medal in Winter Olympics history by finishing the 1,000 meter competition in 1 minute 8.89 seconds. Three days later he added to this amazing accomplishment by winning the silver medal in the 1,500 meter event.

On March 19, 2006, with the Olympic flame still burning brightly in his heart, Shani Davis

set a new world record in the men's 1,500-meter event at the International Skating Union all-around speed skating world championships in Calgary, Canada. Davis finished in 1:42.68 lowering the previous world record by 0.1 second (1:42.78).

These remarkable accomplishments are a testament to Shani Davis' courage and reflect his many years of hard work, dedication, and sacrifice. I am particularly proud to know that Shani Davis' journey to sports greatness has deep roots in the 9th Congressional District of Illinois. Shani Davis lived in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago and began his speed skating experience at the tender age of six under the tutelage of Sanders Hicks at the Robert Crown Ice Rink in Evanston. Shani Davis trained and enhanced his skills as a member of the Speed Skating Club at Robert Crown.

Even though he has already established an outstanding speed skating career, I believe that the future will be even richer and brighter for Shani Davis. I have witnessed his interactions with young people and I know his experiences have helped spark their imaginations and inspired them to achieve greatness in their own lives. The lessons of setting high goals, being persistent and believing in yourself are lessons that all children need to learn, lessons that are abundantly evident in the power of Shani Davis' example.

Shani Davis' world record and outstanding contributions to the legacy of the Olympics will forever serve as a source of pride and inspiration for the people of Evanston, Chicago, and all Americans. In honor of his remarkable achievements, I offer Shani Davis this United States flag as a symbol of appreciation, esteem and good wishes. This flag was flown over the United States Capital building in Washington, DC and is a fitting gift for a patriot and champion.

On behalf of the people of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, I offer Shani Davis my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for his continued excellence.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF WELLINGTON TIMOTHY MARA

SPEECH OF

#### HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 28, 2006*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and achievements of Wellington T. Mara, co-owner of the New York Football Giants. Mr. Mara will always be remembered for his accomplishments with the NFL. However, his legacy extends far beyond the gridiron. He was much more than the successful owner of a professional football team—he was a community leader, a dedicated family patriarch, a devout man of faith, and an outstanding American.

Wellington Mara was a devoted husband to his wonderful wife Anne, a loving father to his eleven children, an adoring grandfather to his 42 grandchildren, and a role model to all who knew him. When called to serve his nation, Wellington did so proudly as a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy during World War II. Later in life, Mara served his community as a member of the board of the

Giants Foundation, an organization that provides important social and financial support to underprivileged youth and their families in the New York/New Jersey Metropolitan Area.

Mr. Mara's foresight helped to turn the NFL into the successful American enterprise that it is today. In the early 1960's, Wellington and his brother, Jack Mara, as co-owners of the most profitable team in the NFL, put the league ahead of their team by agreeing to share lucrative television revenue equally among all NFL teams. The current success of the NFL is a tribute to the esteemed character and selfless sacrifice of the Mara brothers. They proved to the NFL and to the nation that honorable business practices and teamwork can indeed generate great success.

Mr. Mara was well respected within the Giants organization and throughout the NFL. He was extremely loyal to players, coaches, employees, and especially the fans. He treated everyone with whom he came into contact with great respect. Under Wellington Mara's leadership, the Giants appeared in 26 postseasons, won 16 NFL divisional championships and 6 NFL championships, including the remarkable title runs in 1986 and 1990 (Super Bowls XXI and XXV) that captivated the entire New York/New Jersey area. The leadership of Wellington Mara made the Giants a wonderful organization that I am proud to have in my district.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that my colleagues will join with me in honoring the life of this exceptional man. We should all be so fortunate to leave such a tremendous legacy.

#### CHALLENGES FACING CARIBBEAN REGION AS IT FACES INTEGRATION

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise again to strongly support the words spoken by the Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Honorable P.J. Patterson, in an effort to bring to light challenges facing the region and his proposals for what actions need to take place to secure a brighter future for the Caribbean nations. I would also like to enter into the RECORD the second portion of his speech delivered March 9 to the Protocolary Session of the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States on the theme of "Caribbean Integration In Emerging Hemispheric Relations".

#### DEMOCRACY, SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT

I am convinced that unless we focus in a meaningful way on the intrinsic link between democracy, good governance and international security on the one hand, and development on the other, our goals for peace, stability and political and economic security will always remain elusive. We must therefore address the development agenda with the same energy and commitment as we have sought to strengthen the democratic agenda, giving each equal dedication, in order that the benefits of democracy can be widely felt to improve the quality of life for our peoples.

When Heads of Government of the Hemisphere met during the 4th Summit of the Americas in Mar del Plata, Argentina last November, we jointly committed ourselves to the task of Creating Jobs to Fight Pov-

erty and Strengthen Democratic Governance in the Hemisphere. Our Declaration, issued at the end of the meeting, was a clarion call for sustained, long term and equitable economic growth that creates jobs, reduces poverty, eliminates hunger and raises the standard of living for the most vulnerable sectors and social groups in our diverse societies. We also stressed the need to expand trade, as a means of boosting growth and our capacity to generate more, higher quality, and better-paying jobs.

As small open economies, CARICOM countries are highly dependent on trade as the primary driver of economic and social growth, and by extension the stability and democracy of the region.

In 1994, when we launched the Summit of the Americas process, Jamaica and the rest of CARICOM readily put our efforts and scarce human, financial and technical resources into ensuring that our collective vision of prosperity in the Americas would become a reality. Four years later, we formally launched the FTAA negotiations, fully cognizant of the contribution that economic integration and trade liberalization in the Americas could make to create jobs, fight poverty and strengthen democratic governance in our Hemisphere.

It is with disappointment that on the eve of my departure from office as Prime Minister of Jamaica and Chairman of the Prime Ministerial Sub-Committee on External Negotiations of CARICOM, the FTAA is faltering on the rock of political will.

CARICOM is fully committed to the goal and objectives of the Summit of the Americas generally. If the FTAA has no future, we must be realistic and begin to explore new alternatives. Given the slow progress to date in the Doha Development Round of multilateral negotiations, we need to find a hemispheric impetus for advancing discussions on key issues in the WTO.

For example, the Work Programme for Small Economies in the DDA as well as the recent Aid For Trade initiative could build on the initiatives and acceptance by Hemispheric Heads at our Fourth Summit, that smaller economies should be recognised as a special category of countries. Special and differential treatment in favour of smaller economies have to be an accepted fundamental principle of whatever negotiations we pursue.

Our collective vision of growth, economic prosperity and stability for the Hemisphere must not be confined to the narrow territorial boundaries of the hemisphere. Let us broaden the boundaries of our collaboration beyond the OAS and the United Nations. It is high time for the Caribbean and Latin American countries to pool our collective bargaining resources in the WTO, where we also have common goals and concerns.

Every effort must be made to bring Haiti into full participating in the various trade negotiations in the hemisphere and the WTO. In this case, there can be no question about the need for special and differential treatment and technical assistance.

Let me place on record the appreciation of CARICOM for the contribution of OAS and CIDA to technical assistance and capacity building. As we contemplate the multiple trade agendas facing our region, there will be need for sustained assistance to ensure our adjustment and implementation of these new obligations.

How can we then ensure that actions taken at the hemispheric level dovetail automatically into the regional development agenda, the two processes working simultaneously towards a united objective? I will return to my own thoughts on this later in my presentation.

## INTEGRATION—A RESPONSE TO GLOBALISATION

The emergence of various economic blocs across the globe is not mere coincidence, but a natural progression towards strengthening the ability of individual countries to use their collectivity to face the new era of international economic relations.

Smaller units operating on their own can no longer be viable counterweights in this rapidly changing world. Based on this recognition, we in this hemisphere have not shied away from the inevitable and we see the integration movement as our best response to the challenges we face. The establishment of CARICOM, MERCOSUR, THE Andean Group et al, are therefore regional "lifelines" cast upon the turbulent waters of globalisation.

Let me share briefly with you, some of the challenges we face in the Caribbean. We have been seriously affected by the EU's stipulation as it relates to bananas and sugar.

In the case of the former, we have expressed the importance of the higher tariff of Euro 275/t to ensure adequate protection is in place for our farmers.

For sugar, the proposed cut of some 39% is a grave concern for us, as is the proposed timetable for implementation over a four-year period.

In 2004 damage from Hurricane Dennis totalled some US\$40million. The impact was much greater in 2005, with more hurricanes affecting the agricultural and tourism sectors, and even more horrible damage to our infrastructure.

Through these illustrations, which in some cases may be magnified based on the country in the region you choose, I proffer today, that our solutions for the various sub-regions we represent and by extension, the hemisphere, cannot be simple, unilateral or implemented overnight.

CARICOM formally launched the Single Market just over a month ago and we hope to move towards the Single Economy by 2008, as we had envisaged in the Grand Anse Declaration of 1989 in Grenada.

We have, through the methodical, comprehensive and measured approach, taken the necessary steps to ensure that our *modus operandi*, carries with it the philosophy, that no country will be left behind. For this reason, we in CARICOM have been careful to elaborate plans for a Regional Development Fund to assist in the adjustment period. We also fervently believe that at the hemispheric level, no country should be left behind.

Over the years and even now, we have put in place a number of other institutional arrangements that seek to ensure a structured operation through which we hope any future transition can be seamless and effective. CARICOM Heads entertain no misconceptions of the challenges we face. If we are to effectively deliver on the objectives in our revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, we must take some bold steps and remain unwavering in the commitment to achieve the targets.

The moment has arrived for us to now seek solid bipartisan commitment to national and regional goals, which will then translate into full integration into other institutional arrangements. The strength of governance will only be enhanced when we are able to replace the retracing of steps by different administrations, with a brisk walk forward towards our common goals.

Education must be an engine driving growth and pushing development. The technology-driven world we live in today demands knowledge, skills, research and solutions, and a thirst for answers by our youth. We must facilitate that process at all levels to ensure that progression from one level to the other, from one discipline to the next,

takes place consistently. If we are to achieve these objectives as outlined in the Millennium Development Goals, the Charters of the Organization and the Strategic Plan, we must act now on this other pillar of development.

Justice and the rule of law in all its forms, at all levels, must exist without compromise or prejudice. We have to exercise the will to maintain law and order, not merely through the imposition of penalties but through the encouragement of a sense of just, law-abiding and ordered behaviour by all our citizens. Too much of our resources are being spent on managing conflict and security and therefore preventing us from providing more, as opposed to securing less, as we do now.

Sometimes when we seek to solve larger problems, such as the challenges to globalisation, we over-think and over-analyse them and by-pass the adherence to the fundamentals. We must always be mindful of the basic elements, the smallest cogs in the wheels, the importance of measurements.

Let me now address an issue which is very close to my heart. The conduct of international and institutional relations can only be improved when we allow principle, integrity, honour and justice to prevail. The people we lead and the interests we serve are looking to us to provide enlightened and inspired leadership. That expectation becomes magnified with every decision we are called upon to take, because we are more interdependent than we have ever been before.

Security, health and environment issues remind us daily of our own vulnerability as individuals and countries and behave us to be mindful of these concerns at all levels. The recent outrage in the Muslim world recalls for us the far-reaching effect of our actions and by extension our own intolerances. We must guard against these inclinations.

Inclusion and inclusiveness must be one of the principles which we use to dovetail our own actions and create what I would call concentric circles of goodwill. The old adage holds true today that "we will reap what we sow". Let us be mindful of the seeds we put down today, to avoid reaping bitter fruits in the future.

Sixty years after its creation, the OAS is summoned to face bold new challenges which confront our entire Hemisphere. In order to adequately respond, the modality by which it operates must change. It must avoid sterile debate and become an instrument of positive change.

This requires that it become an effective Institution for decision-making at the highest political and economic levels. This must be your quest for the decade ahead.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It has indeed been a pleasure for me to address you today; to share my thoughts and to issue a charge and a challenge to you all. As life and experience have taught me, the process of learning never ends. As we learn we must impart, for in the words of Khalil Gibran—"to withhold is to die". We have a tremendous responsibility to make the world safer and better, for those who have placed their confidence in us. We have many opportunities to do so everyday by our own conduct and leadership. Let us not deny ourselves a Hemisphere of social justice where peace, prosperity and harmony will prevail.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MAIN  
TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL'S WE  
THE PEOPLE: THE CITIZEN AND  
THE CONSTITUTION PROGRAM

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, from April 29–May 1, 2006, approximately 1,200 students from across the country will visit Washington, D.C., to take part in the national finals of We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution, the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. The We the People program is administered by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the U.S. Department of Education by act of Congress.

I am proud to announce that a team from Maine Township High School, located in my Congressional district, will represent the State of Illinois in this prestigious national event. These outstanding students, through their knowledge of the Constitution, won their statewide competition and earned the chance to come to our nation's capital and compete at the national level.

While in Washington, the students will participate in a 3-day academic competition that simulates a congressional hearing in which they "testify" before a panel of judges. Students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principles as they evaluate, take, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues.

We the People students display great political tolerance and commitment to the principles and values of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. With many reports and surveys indicating the lack of civic knowledge and civic participation, I am pleased to support such a superb program that is producing an engaged citizenry.

Mr. Speaker, the names of the outstanding students from Maine Township who will be participating in the national finals are:

Lauren Allegritti, Cailin Bake, Katy Bratko, J.P. Carolan, Liz Chao, Rebecca Christopher, George Gianakakos, Melissa Hansen, Katherine Hapeman, Andrew Juiris, Natalie Kociubinski, David Krone, Chris Lenzini, Matt Lenzini, Meghan Machon, Meghan McKelvey, Christine Recsetar, Pat Rhine, Mike Ross, Janelle Santos, Christina Solari, Amanda Swanson, Bill Warnock, and Mary Yu.

I also wish to commend their teacher, Andrew Trenkle, who is responsible for preparing these young constitutional experts for the national finals. Also worthy of special recognition is Patton Feichter, the state coordinator, and John Heuman, the district coordinator, who are among those responsible for implementing the We the People program in my district.

I wish these students much success as they prepare to compete at the We the People national finals, and I applaud their outstanding achievement.

IN TRIBUTE TO GREEK  
INDEPENDENCE DAY**HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of the 185th Anniversary of Greek Independence Day and in doing so, join millions of my fellow Americans in commemorating the rebellion of the Greek people against the Ottoman Empire and celebrate their declaration of independence on March 25, 1821.

The strong and invaluable friendship between the United States and Greece leads me to recognize Greek Independence Day, a day in which we celebrate the Hellenic people's long, but heroic revolt against 400 years of oppressive rule by the Ottomans. Their struggle for independence demonstrates the strong commitment of the Greek people to achieving freedom from tyranny and oppression. We can see this through Greece's steadfast support of the United States in every major struggle for freedom and democracy, including our global fight against terror. The strength of our great friendship with and the contributions to our nation made by the Hellenic community make me proud to honor such an important day in Greek history.

Our two nations are committed to the shared values of democracy, justice and freedom. Greek ideals of democracy and freedom inspired our nation's founders and helped shape the very fabric of our democratic government. Greek immigrants have been welcomed to the shores of America for generations, and we are grateful for how they have enhanced our collective culture and contributed to our country. I stand proudly with the many Hellenic-Americans in the 9th District of New Jersey and salute them and their ancestors' struggle for freedom on the anniversary of Greek Independence Day.

I welcome this opportunity to celebrate the 185th Greek Independence Day with the Hellenic community. On this day let us remember more than just Greece's independence, but also celebrate Greece as an invaluable ally and longstanding friend of all freedom-loving peoples.

TRIBUTE TO HARRIET TUBMAN  
AND THE 2006 HARRIET TUBMAN  
SPIRIT AWARD RECIPIENTS**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the significance of the Harriet Tubman Spirit Awards, created to honor women of New York State who have perpetuated Tubman's legacy and her humanitarian accomplishments and to praise the 15 women chosen to be recipients of such a prestigious honor. Harriet Ross Tubman was a great liberator who was a monument to courage and determination in the fight for freedom and human rights for slaves in bondage.

Harriet Tubman was called the "Moses" of her people. She was born on a plantation in

Maryland, in or around 1820, and escaped from slavery in 1849. Upon gaining her freedom, Harriet Tubman settled in Philadelphia where she met William Still, the Philadelphia "Stationmaster" of the "Underground Railroad." In 1850, Harriet Tubman became a "conductor" on the Underground Railroad and eventually became the most influential of all the "conductors" by returning to the South 19 times through the Underground Railroad, freeing 300 slaves.

In the mid-1850's, Harriet Tubman made the acquaintance of United States Senator, Secretary of State and former New York State Governor William H. Seward and his wife, Frances, in Auburn, New York. In 1857, the Swards provided a home for Harriet Tubman in Auburn, which she later purchased and used as new headquarters for the Underground Railroad. Since 1995, New York State has assisted with efforts to recognize Harriet Tubman's legacy. In 1999, the State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) helped to document and list Tubman's historic brick home, her church and her gravesite in the Fort Hill Cemetery to the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

In February 2001, Governor Pataki announced the creation of a \$1.4 million Underground Railroad Heritage Trail Grant Program to enhance heritage tourism and support site improvements at historic sites and interpretive centers commemorating the Underground Railroad across New York State. In addition, the Governor committed more than \$280,000 in Bond Act funds to restore Harriet Tubman's home in Auburn. An additional \$100,000 was provided in 2002 to help restore the Harriet Tubman Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, also in Auburn, New York.

In 2003, Governor George E. Pataki proclaimed March 10th as "Harriet Tubman Day". He then officially signed into law a bill designating the day as a day of commemoration in New York State for the life and heroic contributions of Harriet Ross Tubman. Governor Pataki chose March 10th because it is the day Harriet Tubman died in 1913 at the age of 93. As part of the State's tribute, the second annual New York State Governor's Harriet Tubman Spirit Awards were presented to 15 women, whose accomplishments strongly embraced the spirit of Harriet Tubman.

The 15 honorees have shown through their tireless efforts significant contributions to the culture and well being of New York and have paved the way for future leaders in the ongoing fight for human rights. All of these women, like Harriet Tubman, possess a pioneering spirit of excellence.

The 2006 Harriet Tubman Spirit Award recipients were: Zenaïda Chape', NYC Humanitarian and Community Advocate; Sarah Curry-Cobb, Pioneer and Civil Rights Advocate from Albany; Dr. Joan O. Dawson, NYC Educator and Youth Advocate; Patricia A. Devine, Youth Advocate from Albany; Maria Ginter, Diversity and Community Advocate from Albany; Mona Golub, Pioneer and Cultural Arts Advocate from Schenectady; Alvania Hill, Educator from Albany; Sharon Jordan Holley, Educator and Historian from Buffalo; Reverend Carolyn Peterson-Vaccaro, Women and Family Advocate from Albany; Frances Ethel Powell Pratt, Civil Rights Advocate from Nyack; Ruth Russell, Health and Community Advocate from Rensselaer; Dr. Cecilia Sanz, Children and Family Advocate from Albany; Rose Stuart,

Pioneer and Family Advocate from Albany; Meilin Tan, NYC Humanitarian and Entrepreneur and Benita Zahn, Health and Media Advocate from Albany.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing this stellar award and the very deserving recipients during the 2nd anniversary month of the New York State Governor's Harriet Tubman Spirit Awards.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that on rollcall vote No. 69, I would like the RECORD to reflect that I inadvertently voted "nay." I would like the RECORD to reflect that I intended to vote "yea."

TOM MCDANIEL: A HARD-WORKING  
PUBLIC SERVANT WHO WILL BE  
MISSED**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, on February 28, 2006, Williamson County lost a hard working friend of the community with the untimely passing of Williamson County Commissioner S. Thomas McDaniel. Tom was an effective, grassroots politician. A close friend and advisor, I had the honor of swearing Tom into office as Williamson County Commissioner for Precinct 3 on November 2, 2004.

Well-respected by his colleagues, Tom brought a new perspective to Williamson County politics. In some areas he probably stepped on a few toes and in other areas he was a breath of fresh air. Commissioner McDaniel was a steward of the communities in Williamson County's Third Precinct, continually working to improve the region's infrastructure. He continually encouraged efficient, effective operations at the county level. During his service as Commissioner, construction began on the City of Georgetown Public Library and the Williamson County Courthouse Restoration began, among other successes.

Born in Terrell, Texas, on April 1, 1944, Tom is a third generation Texan. Tom is survived by his lovely wife of 32 years, Linda, and his son, Ryan.

Tom was a really fine man, and I am going to miss him terribly. He will be missed by me, my family, and all of Williamson County.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER  
CHARLES L. STUPPARD**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Commander Charles L. Stuppard, United States Navy, for his outstanding and brilliant performance as Commanding Officer of the United States Ship

*Arleigh Burke* (DDG 51) from March 5, 2004 to April 3, 2006. USS *Arleigh Burke* was commissioned in Norfolk, Virginia on July 4, 1991. She is the first of the most powerful and survivable class of destroyers ever put to sea. She possesses the AEGIS weapons systems with multifunction radar, capable of detecting and tracking hundreds of targets simultaneously while conducting multiple engagements.

On March 5, 2004, in Norfolk, Virginia, Commander Stuppard's took command of this powerful Navy vessel. Commander Stuppard graduated from Cornell University in 1982 with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical and aerospace engineering. He worked for 3 years as a design and test engineer in the A-10A, T-46 and SF-340 aircraft programs for Fairchild Republic Corporation in Long Island, New York. In 1985 he joined the Navy as an aviation officer candidate. After commissioning and flight training Commander Stuppard switched to Surface Warfare. In 1998 Commander Stuppard obtained his master's degree in national security and strategic studies at the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island.

During Commander Stuppard's flawless and noteworthy tour of duty as "Captain," he masterfully led his ship, the *Arleigh Burke* with 300 sailors, through an extensive and demanding training phase followed by a major fleet inspection. He then took the ship through a rigorous intermediate and advanced training cycle, which included two Joint Maritime Course exercises off the coast of the United Kingdom, particularly in Scotland and a Submarine Commander's Course off the islands of the Bahamas. With his crew fully prepared and ready, he deployed to the Mediterranean Sea as the sole United States member of the Standing NATO Maritime Group Two from November 2005 to May 2006 in support of Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOR and NATO operations with a primary mission to prevent terrorists from using the high seas for their misdeeds.

Under his sterling leadership USS *Arleigh Burke* maintained an impeccable record of outstanding achievements. His attention to detail, keen foresight and dedication to duty resulted in 100 percent operational and combat readiness and a very successful 6 months deployment in southern Europe. On April 3, 2006, Commander Stuppard will have his change of command ceremony while on his European deployment in Valletta, Malta. His tour of command was nothing short of magnificent. His next duty station will be at the Command Leadership School in Newport, Rhode Island where he will be an instructor to all naval prospective commanding officers over the next 3 years. His experience and leadership will positively affect a whole generation of future naval commanding officers. I am looking forward to pay him a visit there.

Commander Stuppard's excellent reputation and commitment to duty will become an indelible mark on the crew of this legendary Navy vessel, the USS *Arleigh Burke*. Commander Stuppard consistently projects the Navy core values of "Honor, Courage and Commitment" and will always be remembered by every *Arleigh Burke* officer, chief and sailor known as "team 51" who served under his command. Commander Stuppard immensely and effectively touched the life of so many of our men and women in uniform. The following five

words are the motto by which Commander Stuppard led his brave and valiant crew: "Be Good—Do Good Work".

Commander Stuppard's accomplishments and achievements are truly outstanding and serve as an example to all citizens throughout our country, the United States of America. Commander Stuppard is a true gentleman and an outstanding American. I congratulate Commander Charles L. Stuppard and the crew of the *Arleigh Burke* for a job well done.

#### HOMELESS ASSISTANCE CONSOLIDATION ACT OF 2006

**HON. RICK RENZI**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. RENZI. This afternoon I am introducing legislation, by request of the Bush Administration, designed to combat homelessness nationwide.

The Homeless Assistance Consolidation Act of 2006 would consolidate three competitive homeless assistance programs within the Department of Housing and Urban Development—Supportive Housing, Shelter Plus Care, and Section 8 Single Room Occupancy—into a single program aimed at alleviating homelessness in this country.

Consolidation of these programs would provide more flexibility to localities, fund prevention of homelessness, and dramatically reduce the time required to distribute grant funds to groups combating homelessness.

The legislation would streamline the three programs into one competitive program with a single set of eligibility requirements and would provide incentives for communities to carry out permanent housing activities with supportive services for the homeless.

I believe that this legislation is a good starting point for the House of Representatives in crafting a bill that would help achieve the goal of alleviating homelessness in my home state of Arizona, and the country.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House, the Senate, the Administration, and most importantly, individuals and groups throughout the country who have dedicated themselves to fight homelessness, to craft legislation in the coming months which will authorize the funding and provide the tools needed by advocates of the homeless.

In the past, Congress has provided HUD significant funding over the years to distribute to groups to fight homelessness. Millions of individuals and families are, or have in the past, faced homelessness. They deserve our help, and I am committed to fighting on behalf of the homeless, and I am hopeful that this legislation will further this most important effort.

#### IN RESPONSE TO RECENT ISRAELI ELECTIONS

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the State of Israel for once again serving as a model to the Middle East

region of what a successful democracy should be. With the threat of severe violence from their neighbors, Israelis proudly went to the polls to take part in the single most important part of any government—expressing one's voice through the vote.

I offer my congratulations to all who were successful in yesterday's elections. You have the will of the people, and more importantly, the responsibility to protect and defend both the land and the people of Israel.

In the coming months and years, you will have many important decisions relating to security and defense that you will need to make. I urge you to resist external political pressures and do what needs to be done to maintain the physical integrity of Israel and uphold the security of your people.

As a Congressman, I vow to continue to do what I can to work with the State of Israel and help one of America's closest allies and I look forward to working with the new Israeli government.

#### INTRODUCTORY REMARKS FOR CESAR ESTRADA CHAVEZ STUDY ACT

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Cesar Estrada Chavez Study Act. This legislation authorizes the Department of Interior to conduct a special resources study to examine the areas that Cesar Estrada Chavez lived for potential incorporation into the National Park Service.

Cesar Estrada Chavez was a humble man who knew the importance of hard work and sacrifice. Raised during the Great Depression, Chavez's family lost everything and he was forced to wander the southwestern United States with thousands of other farmworker families. As a migrant farmworker he learned the value of community and family. Farmworkers were united as they fought to survive in the often harsh working and living conditions of the migrant life.

Chavez eventually left the fields in 1952 and began to campaign peacefully against racial and economic discrimination. In 1962, Chavez returned to help farmworker families and started the National Farmworkers Association. Today we know this organization as the United Farm Workers of America. Through non-violent action, the United Farm Workers have fought for fair wages, health care coverage, pension benefits, housing improvements, pesticide and health regulations and countless other protections for the health and wellbeing of the farmworker and their family.

Despite the work of Chavez as a civil rights and labor leader, religious and spiritual figure, community servant and social entrepreneur, there are no historical, geographical or cultural designations in the National Park Service to honor him or his spirit which lives on today. I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation, so the stories of Chavez's struggles and triumphs need to be communicated and preserved for all Americans.

A TRIBUTE TO CARTER GILMORE  
FOR 50 YEARS OF COMMUNITY  
SERVICE

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a public servant extraordinaire, Carter Gilmore of Oakland California. Mr. Gilmore's friends and colleagues are honoring him on April 20, 2006, for his 50 years of dedicated and tireless community service.

He arrived in California from Houston, Texas, shortly after his marriage to Lizzie Mae Hampton in 1948. They are the proud parents of 6 children, 14 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Mr. Gilmore served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and is a retired plant manager of Granny Goose Foods in Oakland.

The brutal death of an African American youth, Emmett Till, in Mississippi in 1955 mobilized the civil rights movement and prompted Carter Gilmore to begin his years of service to civil rights and community service. He joined the Alameda Branch of the NAACP. He became an active member and later became a forceful president of this branch during the civil rights movement. He wrote in the monthly newsletter about the quest for equal rights and his letter was placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in 1985.

When the NAACP lost its leader, Medger Evers, in Mississippi, Mr. Gilmore was willing to relocate and take his place but realized that his community service was needed in California. Mr. Gilmore's dedication and commitment to civil rights moved him upward through the ranks of the NAACP in California and he became the Northern California Area President.

Mr. Gilmore's leadership was not limited to his dedicated efforts within the NAACP. He was also involved in a host of activities that garnered him honors for his community leadership.

In 1977, Mr. Gilmore was elected to the Oakland City Council. He was reelected in 1981 and 1985 unchallenged. He served as the Vice Mayor from 1979 to 1981.

Mr. Gilmore has served on numerous boards, which include the East Oakland Youth Center, Alameda County Fair, League of California Cities, Goodwill Industries, Bay Area Committee on Hypertension and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Freedom Center of Oakland.

He is an active member of many community-based organizations where he continues his dedicated leadership helping seniors, youth, and veterans.

Carter Gilmore has proven time and again that one person can make a difference. His 50 years of service has touched many lives and his contributions have been felt in numerous

ways. I join his friends and admirers in expressing admiration for his accomplishments and heartfelt appreciation for all his efforts. He has earned the well deserved title public servant extraordinaire.

THE PASSING OF MRS. ERMA  
BYRD, WIFE OF SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, we have lost a great daughter of West Virginia. A coal miner's daughter, Erma Byrd was born and raised in the hills of southern West Virginia. More than 68 years ago she married a young man named ROBERT C. BYRD and for the past decades they have enjoyed a wonderful life together working for the people of West Virginia and all Americans.

One of my life's greatest privileges was to know Mrs. Byrd. Always wearing a warm smile, encouraging with a kind word, reassuring with a gentle hand, Mrs. Byrd lived a life for others, clearing a path for each of us.

Her life full of compassion towards others garnered her much respect and admiration throughout my home state of West Virginia. Generations of West Virginians were touched by the life of Erma Byrd. The unfortunate news of her passing will bring sadness to all West Virginians, as even those who did not have the opportunity to meet Mrs. Byrd stand in admiration of Erma and everything for which she stands.

Scripture tells us that faith hope and love abide. The spirit of Mrs. Byrd always abided with these virtues and now always will through those whom her life so graciously touched.

It was a wonderful waltz that lasted over 68 years for Senator and Mrs. Byrd. My family's thoughts and prayers for the Senator and his family join those of countless West Virginians and fellow Americans as we honor and remember the remarkable life of Erma Byrd.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FULL  
DISCLOSURE IN LOBBYING ACT

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 29, 2006*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that would strengthen third-party lobbying disclosure requirements contained in the Lobbying Disclosure Act, P.L. 104-65. Specifically, the legislation I have introduced today would amend Section 5(b) of

the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, 2 U.S.C. 1604(b), by first making a series of technical corrections and then by adding new language to require that specific information be disclosed when a registrant is retained to engage in lobbying activities on behalf of a third party. This legislation would require that the identity of, the contact information for, and the amounts paid by that third party for the registrant's services be disclosed on the registrant's semiannual financial disclosure reports filed with the Clerk of the House and the Secretary of the Senate pursuant to Section 5 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act. The intent of this legislation is to enhance current law by making the practice of third-party lobbying activities more transparent.

Section 4 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act requires that a lobbyist list the name, address, and principal place of business of any organization, other than the client, that contributes more than \$10,000 toward the registrant's lobbying activities in a semiannual period, or and in whole or in major part plans, supervises, or controls such lobbying activities. The changes to the Lobbying Disclosure Act proposed by my legislation would reinforce existing Section 4 disclosure provisions. These changes would require the reporting of a third, or subsequent degree, contractual relationship between a lobbyist and a client pursuant to Section 5 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act.

The authors of the Lobbying Disclosure Act understood that accurate reporting of the identity of participants in third-party lobbying activities is important to transparency. In fact, the Committee on the Judiciary expressed its views on Section 4(b)(3) in House Report 104-339, describing that current law "is intended to preclude evasion of the disclosure requirements of the Act through the creation of ad hoc lobbying coalitions behind which real parties in interest can hide." Recent media reports reveal that third-party lobbying activities have been arranged to evade the Lobbying Disclosure Act.

The registration and financial disclosure reports required by Sections 4 and 5 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act should both capture the contractual lobbying relationships entered into by registrants and their clients. Current law requires that registrants declare third-party contractual lobbying relationships on their Section 4 registration reports. However, Section 5 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act does not specifically require the disclosure of the details of third-party contractual lobbying activities. The legislation I have introduced today would close this loophole. This legislation enhances current law and will bring further transparency and accountability to lobbying activities.

I urge my colleagues to support the Full Disclosure in Lobbying Act. It is my hope that this legislation will be enacted, and its merits will be reviewed as the House considers lobbying reform legislation.



## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 30, 2006 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## MARCH 31

9:30 a.m.  
Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine the call to censure the President.  
SD-226

10 a.m.  
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Uttam Dhillon, of California, to be Director of the Office of Counter-narcotics Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, and Mark D. Acton, of Kentucky, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Rate Commission.  
SD-342

## APRIL 3

9:30 a.m.  
Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine immigration.  
SD-226

## APRIL 4

9:30 a.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold hearings to examine how Congress might go about creating a program to control U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.  
SD-G50

10 a.m.  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Aviation Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine Federal Aviation Administration funding options.  
SD-562

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine a current assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing threats and countermeasures.  
SD-538

Finance  
To hold hearings to examine the cost of tax preparation.  
SD-215

Armed Services  
Strategic Forces Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine missile defense programs in review of the defense

authorization request for fiscal year 2007.  
SD-138

2:30 p.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
To continue hearings to examine how Congress might go about creating a program to control U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.  
SD-G50

Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings to examine the current situation in Iraq.  
SD-106

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
Housing and Transportation Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine reform of FHA's Title I Manufactured Housing Loan Programs.  
SD-538

Armed Services  
Personnel Subcommittee  
To resume hearings to examine health benefits and programs in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007.  
SR-232A

Intelligence  
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.  
SH-219

3:30 p.m.  
Armed Services  
SeaPower Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the posture of the U.S. Transportation Command in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007 and the future years defense program.  
SR-222

## APRIL 5

9:30 a.m.  
Armed Services  
Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine Department of Defense's role in combating terrorism in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007 and the future years defense program; to be followed by a closed session.  
SR-222

Environment and Public Works  
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard Capka, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, and James B. Gulliford, of Missouri, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances, and William Ludwig Wehrum, Jr., of Tennessee, to be an Assistant Administrator, both of the Environmental Protection Agency.  
SD-628

Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings to examine the Indian separation plan and the administration's related legislative proposal, relating to U.S.-India atomic energy cooperation.  
SH-216

Indian Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine the problem of methamphetamine in Indian country.  
SR-485

10 a.m.  
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
Bioterrorism and Public Health Preparedness Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine all hazards medical response.  
SD-430

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine S. 2459, to improve cargo security.  
SD-342

10:30 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Legislative Branch Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Sergeant at Arms and U.S. Capitol Police Board.  
SD-138

2 p.m.  
Appropriations  
Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the Department of Justice.  
SD-192

2:30 p.m.  
Foreign Relations  
European Affairs Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine Islamist extremism in Europe.  
SD-419

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine museums and Federal funding, focusing on the various avenues of Federal funding for museums including authorized programs, grantmaking agencies and earmarks.  
SD-342

Energy and Natural Resources  
Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the 2005 wildfire season and the Federal land management agencies' preparations for the 2006 wildfire season.  
SD-366

Intelligence  
Closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business.  
SH-219

3 p.m.  
Armed Services  
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine improving contractor incentives in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007.  
SR-222

## APRIL 6

10 a.m.  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
National Ocean Policy Study Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine offshore aquaculture, focusing on current proposals to regulate offshore aquaculture operations, discuss research in this field being conducted off the coasts of New England and Hawaii, and the impacts that expanded aquaculture operations would have on fishermen, seafood processors, and consumers.  
SD-562

2:30 p.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
National Parks Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine S. 1510, to designate as wilderness certain lands within the Rocky Mountain National Park in the State of Colorado, S. 1719 and H.R. 1492, bills to provide for the preservation of the historic confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II, S. 1957, to authorize the Secretary of Interior to convey to The Missouri River



Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center Foundation, Inc. certain Federal land associated with the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail in Nebraska, to be used as an historical interpretive site along the trail, S. 2034 and H.R. 394, bills to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to evaluate the significance of the Colonel James Barrett Farm in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and assess the suitability and feasibility of including the farm in the National Park System as part of the Minute Man National Historical Park, S. 2252, to designate the National Museum of Wildlife Art, located at 2820 Rungius Road, Jackson, Wyoming, as the National Museum of Wildlife Art of the United States, and S. 2403, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to include in the boundaries of the Grand Teton National Park land and interests in land of the GT Park Subdivision.

SD-366

## Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

3:30 p.m.

Armed Services

Strategic Forces Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine military space programs in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007.

SR-222

APRIL 26

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Technology, Innovation, and Competitiveness Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine fostering innovation in math and science education.

Room to be announced

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine the progress of construction on the Capitol Visitor Center.

SD-138

MAY 3

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for

the Government Printing Office, Congressional Budget Office, and Office of Compliance.

SD-138

MAY 17

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Technology, Innovation, and Competitiveness Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine accelerating the adoption of health information technology.

Room to be announced

MAY 24

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine the progress of construction on the Capitol Visitor Center.

SD-138

JUNE 14

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Technology, Innovation, and Competitiveness Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine alternative energy technologies.

Room to be announced